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H.178

Introduced by Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Andrews of Rutland City,  
Font-Russell of Rutland City and French of Randolph

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes; cruelty to children and to persons under care of another

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to make it a crime for a person to  
leave a child or another person under the first person's care or custody  
unattended in a motor vehicle.

An act relating to leaving a child or person under care of another unattended  
in a motor vehicle

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 1304 is amended to read:

§ 1304. CRUELTY TO CHILDREN UNDER 10 BY ONE OVER 16

(a) A person over the age of 16 years, having the custody, charge, or care  
of a child under 10 years of age, who wilfully assaults, ill treats, neglects, or  
abandons or exposes such child, or causes or procures such child to be  
assaulted, ill-treated, neglected, abandoned, or exposed, in a manner to cause  
such child unnecessary suffering, or to endanger his or her health, shall be  
imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than \$500.00, or both.

1       (b) It shall be a violation of this section if the person over the age of 16  
2       years leaves the child unattended in a motor vehicle.

3       Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 1305 is amended to read:

4       § 1305. CRUELTY BY PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF ANOTHER

5       (a) A person having the custody, charge, care, or control of another person,  
6       who inflicts unnecessary cruelty upon such person, or unnecessarily and  
7       cruelly fails to provide such person with proper food, drink, shelter, or  
8       protection from the weather, or unnecessarily and cruelly neglects to properly  
9       care for such person, shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not  
10      more than \$200.00, or both.

11      (b) It shall be a violation of this section if the person having custody,  
12      charge, care, or control of the other person leaves the other person unattended  
13      in a motor vehicle.