

HB 1046 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Law & Justice

ADOPTED 04/14/2025

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The definitions in this section apply throughout section 2 of
6 this act unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

7 (1) "Domestic animal" means a dog, cat, or other animal that is
8 domesticated and may be kept as a household pet. The term does not
9 include livestock or other farm animals.

10 (2) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as provided in RCW
11 46.04.320.

12 (3) "Vulnerable person" means a person under the age of 18 years
13 or a person whose ability to perform the normal activities of daily
14 living or to provide for their own care or protection is impaired due
15 to a mental, emotional, sensory, long-term physical, or developmental
16 disability or dysfunction, or brain damage, or the infirmities of
17 aging.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 4.24 RCW
19 to read as follows:

20 A person who enters a motor vehicle, by force or otherwise, for
21 the purpose of removing a vulnerable person or domestic animal is
22 immune from civil liability for damage to the motor vehicle if the
23 person:

24 (1) Determines the motor vehicle is locked or there is otherwise
25 no reasonable method for the vulnerable person or domestic animal to
26 exit the motor vehicle without assistance;

27 (2) Has a good faith and reasonable belief, based upon the known
28 circumstances, that entry into the motor vehicle is necessary because
29 the vulnerable person or domestic animal is in imminent danger of
30 suffering harm;

1 (3) Ensures that law enforcement is notified or 911 called before
2 entering the motor vehicle;

3 (4) Uses no more force to enter the motor vehicle and remove the
4 vulnerable person or domestic animal than is necessary; and

5 (5) Remains with the vulnerable person or domestic animal in a
6 safe location, in reasonable proximity to the motor vehicle, until
7 law enforcement, animal control, or other first responders arrive."

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8 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "animals;" strike the
9 remainder of the title and insert "and adding new sections to chapter
10 4.24 RCW."

EFFECT: Requires that a rescuing person notify law enforcement or
call 911 before entering the motor vehicle.

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