

Michigan State Law

Section 750.135a

THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE (EXCERPT) Act 328 of 1931

750.135a Leaving child unattended in vehicle; prohibition; violation; definitions.

Sec. 135a.

(1) A person who is responsible for the care or welfare of a child shall not leave that child unattended in a vehicle for a period of time that poses an unreasonable risk of harm or injury to the child or under circumstances that pose an unreasonable risk of harm or injury to the child.

(2) A person who violates this section is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) to (d), the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

(b) If the violation results in physical harm other than serious physical harm to the child, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

(c) If the violation results in serious physical harm to the child, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than \$5,000.00, or both.

(d) If the violation results in the death of the child, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00, or both.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Child" means an individual less than 6 years of age.

(b) "Physical harm" and "serious physical harm" mean those terms as defined in section 136b.

(c) "Unattended" means alone or without the supervision of an individual 13 years of age or older who is not legally incapacitated.

(d) "Vehicle" means that term as defined in section 79 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.79.

History: Add. 2008, Act 519, Eff. Apr. 1, 2009