Session of 2024

HOUSE BILL No. 2680

By Committee on Transportation

Requested by Representative Essex on behalf of Amber Rollins of Kids and Car Safety

2-5

AN ACT concerning traffic regulations; relating to unattended children in vehicles; creating a traffic infraction for leaving a child eight years of age or younger unattended in a vehicle and providing penalties therefor; crediting fines from violations of such traffic infraction to the family and children trust account of the family and children investment fund; requiring the division of vehicles to include information concerning the dangers of leaving unattended children in vehicles in driving materials and courses; amending K.S.A. 8-2118 and repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

New Section 1. (a) A parent, legal guardian or other person responsible for a child who is eight years of age or younger shall not knowingly leave such child inside a motor vehicle without being subject to the supervision of a person who is 12 years of age or older.

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of K.S.A. 20-350 and 74-7336, and amendments thereto, any fines collected pursuant to this section shall be remitted by the clerk of the district court to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall credit the entire amount to the children and family trust account of the family and children investment fund established in K.S.A. 38-1808, and amendments thereto.
- (c) The division of vehicles shall require information concerning the dangers of leaving children unattended in motor vehicles, including, but not limited to, the effect of solar heat on the temperature of motor vehicle interiors and the penalties for violating this section, to be included in the following materials or courses:
 - (1) The Kansas driving handbook;
- (2) drivers' training schools, as defined in K.S.A. 8-273, and amendments thereto;
- (3) driver training courses conducted by any board, as defined in K.S.A. 72-4005, and amendments thereto;
 - (4) driver improvement clinics, as described in K.S.A. 8-255, and

Proposed Amendments to HB 2680 For House Committee on Transportation February 20, 2023 Prepared by: Office of Revisor of Statutes

(1)

This subsection shall apply to any:

- (A) highway;
- (B) public property;
- (C) private property open to the public; or
- (D) any parking lot or parking facility not otherwise excluded pursuant to paragraph (2).
- (2) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a private driveway or private parking lot or private parking facility of any property used for residential purposes.

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amendments thereto; and

- (5) any materials provided to community driving public awareness and education programs by the division of vehicles or any other agencies, including, but not limited to, the department of transportation, the department for children and families and the Kansas highway patrol.
- (d) A person who violates the provisions of this section may also be prosecuted for, convicted of and punished for any offense in chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, resulting from leaving a child unattended in a motor vehicle.
- (e) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to the uniform act regulating traffic on highways.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 8-2118 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-2118. (a) A person charged with a traffic infraction shall, except as provided in subsection (b), appear at the place and time specified in the notice to appear. If the person enters an appearance, waives right to trial, pleads guilty or no contest, the fine shall be no greater than that specified in the uniform fine schedule in subsection (c) and court costs shall be taxed as provided by law.
- (b) Prior to the time specified in the notice to appear, a person charged with a traffic infraction may enter a written appearance, waive right to trial, plead guilty or no contest and pay the fine for the violation as specified in the uniform fine schedule in subsection (c) and court costs provided by law. Payment may be made in any manner accepted by the court. The traffic citation shall not have been complied with if the payment is not honored for any reason, or if the fine and court costs are not paid in full. When a person charged with a traffic infraction makes payment without executing a written waiver of right to trial and plea of guilty or no contest, the payment shall be deemed such an appearance, waiver of right to trial and plea of no contest.
- (c) The following uniform fine schedule shall apply uniformly throughout the state but shall not limit the fine that may be imposed following a court appearance, except an appearance made for the purpose of pleading and payment as permitted by subsection (a). The description of offense contained in the following uniform fine schedule is for reference only and is not a legal definition.

36	Description of Offense	Statute	Fine
37	Unsafe speed for prevailing	8-1557	\$75
38	conditions		
39	Exceeding maximum speed	8-1558	1-10 mph over the
40	limit; or speeding in zone	to	limit, \$45
41	posted by the state depart-	8-1560	
42	ment of transportation; or	8-1560a	11-20 mph over the
43	speeding in locally posted	or	limit, \$45 plus \$6

A law enforcement officer shall issue a warning citation to anyone violating the provisions of subsection (a). The provisions of this subsection shall expire and have no effect on and after July 1, 2025.

(f)

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1	Motorcycle helmet and eye-	8-1598	\$45	
2	protection requirements			
3 4	Unlawful operation of all-ter- rain vehicle	8-15,100	\$75	
5 6	Unlawful operation of low-speed vehicle	8-15,101	\$75	
7	Littering	8-15,102	\$115	
8	Disobeying school crossing	8-15,103	\$75	
9	guard	,	*	
10	Unlawful operation of micro	8-15,106	\$75	
11	utility truck	,	*	
12	Failure to remove vehicles in	8-15,107	\$75	
13	accidents	,		
14	Unlawful operation of golf	8-15,108	\$75	
15	cart	,		
16	Unlawful operation of work-	8-15,109	\$75	
17	site utility vehicle	,		
18	Unlawful display of license	8-15,110	\$60	
19	plate	,	400	
20	Unlawful text messaging	8-15,111	\$60	
21	Unlawful passing of a waste	8-15,112	\$45	
22	collection vehicle	,		
23	Unlawful operation of	8-15,113	\$45	
24	electric-assisted scooter	,		
25	Unlawful passing of a utility or	8-15,114	\$105	
26	telecommunications vehicle	,		D 40
27	Leaving a child unattended in a	section 1	\$100	\$60
28	motor vehicle			
29	Equipment offenses that are	8-1701	\$75	
30	not misdemeanors			
31	Driving without lights when	8-1703	\$45	
32	needed			
33	Defective headlamps	8-1705	\$45	
34	Defective tail lamps	8-1706	\$45	
35	Defective reflector	8-1707	\$45	
36	Improper stop lamp or turn	8-1708	\$45	
37	signal			
38	Improper lighting equipment	8-1710	\$45	
39	on certain vehicles			
40	Improper lamp color on cer-	8-1711	\$45	
41	tain vehicles			
42	Improper mounting of re-	8-1712	\$45	
43	flectors and lamps on cer-			

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shall be classified as ordinance traffic infractions by those cities adopting ordinances prohibiting the same offenses. A schedule of fines for all ordinance traffic infractions shall be established by the municipal judge in the manner prescribed by K.S.A. 12-4305, and amendments thereto. Such fines may vary from those contained in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c).

- (e) Fines listed in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c) shall be doubled if a person is convicted of a traffic infraction, which is defined as a moving violation in accordance with rules and regulations adopted pursuant to K.S.A. 8-249, and amendments thereto, committed within any road construction zone as defined in K.S.A. 8-1458a, and amendments thereto.
- (f) For a second violation of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, within two years after a prior conviction of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, such person, upon conviction shall be fined $1^{1}/_{2}$ times the applicable amount from one, but not both, of the schedules listed in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c). For a third violation of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, within two years, after two prior convictions of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, such person, upon conviction shall be fined two times the applicable amount from one, but not both, of the schedules listed in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c). For a fourth and each succeeding violation of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, within two years after three prior convictions of K.S.A. 8-1908 or 8-1909, and amendments thereto, such person, upon conviction shall be fined $2^{1}/_{2}$ times the applicable amount from one, but not both, of the schedules listed in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c).
- (g) Fines listed in the uniform fine schedule contained in subsection (c) relating to exceeding the maximum speed limit, shall be doubled if a person is convicted of exceeding the maximum speed limit in a school zone authorized under K.S.A. 8-1560(a)(4), and amendments thereto.
- (h) For a second violation of K.S.A. 8-1556, and amendments thereto, within five years after a prior conviction of K.S.A. 8-1556, and amendments thereto, such person, upon conviction, shall be fined \$750 for the second violation. For a third and each succeeding violation of K.S.A. 8-1556, and amendments thereto, within five years after two prior convictions of K.S.A. 8-1556, and amendments thereto, such person, upon conviction, shall be fined \$1,000 for the third and each succeeding violation.
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 8-2118 is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.