

2024 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1462

Offered January 19, 2024

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1215.1, relating to firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.

Patrons—Laufer, Hernandez, Callsen, Clark, Cohen and Glass

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1215.1 as follows:

§ 46.2-1215.1. Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.

A. For purposes of this section, an "unattended motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is left unattended on a public highway or other public property and the owner, operator, or any passenger of such motor vehicle is unable to observe such motor vehicle.

B. No person shall leave, place, or store any handgun, as defined in § 18.2-307.1, in any unattended motor vehicle when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such motor vehicle.

C. Any person convicted of a violation of this section is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500.

All penalties collected under this section shall be paid into the state treasury to be credited to the Literary Fund as provided in § 46.2-114.

D. For purposes of § 46.2-1213, any violation of this section deems the vehicle as illegally parked and such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal.

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