

1           A RESOLUTION urging Congress to require car manufacturers to improve safety  
2 devices on automobiles for the protection of children left in cars.

3           WHEREAS, vehicular heatstroke is a term used by safety experts to describe the  
4 death of a person, especially a child, left unattended in a vehicle, where even on mild days  
5 temperatures can reach greater than 100 degrees; and

6           WHEREAS, in 2018, a record number of 53 children died, and in the first half of  
7 2019 at least 29 children have died, due to vehicular heatstroke; and

8           WHEREAS, more than half of vehicular heatstroke cases from 1998 to 2018 were  
9 because an adult accidentally left a child in the vehicle; and

10          WHEREAS, a child's vehicular heatstroke death is a matter of circumstance that  
11 could happen to any parent and has happened to people in all walks of life; and

12          WHEREAS, vehicular heatstroke is one of the leading causes of non-crash-related  
13 fatalities among children; and

14          WHEREAS, technology currently exists, such as seat belt clasp monitors, rear door  
15 opening sensors, and seat weight sensors, that could equip motor vehicles with a system  
16 to detect the presence of a child in the rear seat of a vehicle after the vehicle is turned off  
17 and the driver exits the vehicle; and

18          WHEREAS, if sensors detect a child is left, the system would issue an audible  
19 warning; and

20          WHEREAS, the installation of such technology would help prevent heatstroke-  
21 related deaths due to children being left alone in a vehicle;

22          NOW, THEREFORE,

23          *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*  
24 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

25          ➔Section 1.   The Kentucky House of Representatives respectfully urges the  
26 Congress of the United States to require automobile manufacturers to install safety  
27 features that will give an audible alert when a child is left in the backseat to prevent the

1 deaths of children from being left alone in a hot car. Technology used could include, but  
2 not be limited to, seat belt monitors, rear door opening sensors, and seat weight sensors.  
3 These sensors should give an audible alert through the car's horn if the child is not  
4 removed within a minimum amount of time after the driver exits the vehicle.

5       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this  
6 Resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States of America, the  
7 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United  
8 States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the  
9 Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and each member of the Kentucky  
10 Congressional Delegation.