

By: Burton

S.B. No. 1530

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the offense of leaving a motor vehicle unattended.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Section 545.404, Transportation Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 545.404. UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE. (a) Except as
7 provided by Subsection (b), an [~~An~~] operator may not leave a [~~the~~]
8 vehicle unattended without:

- 9 (1) stopping the engine;
10 (2) locking the ignition;
11 (3) removing the key from the ignition;
12 (4) setting the parking brake effectively; and
13 (5) if standing on a grade, standing on a grade,
14 turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway.

15 (b) The requirements of Subsections (a)(1), (2), and (3) do
16 not apply to

17 (1) a vehicle located on property under the operator's
18 control; or

19 (2) an operator who starts the engine of a vehicle by
20 using a remote starter or other similar device that:

21 (a) remotely starts the vehicle's engine without
22 placing the key in the ignition; and

23 (b) requires the key to be placed in the ignition
24 or physically present in the vehicle before the vehicle can be

1 operated.

2 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
3 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
4 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
5 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
6 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
7 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
8 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
9 before that date.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.