

By Senator Berman

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to safe storage of firearms and
3 ammunition in motor vehicles and vessels; creating s.
4 790.176, F.S.; defining the terms "motor vehicle,"
5 "trunk," and "vessel"; requiring persons who store or
6 leave firearms or ammunition in motor vehicles or
7 vessels under their control to keep the firearms or
8 ammunition locked inside specified locations within
9 the motor vehicles or vessels while not in the motor
10 vehicles or vessels; providing criminal penalties;
11 providing an effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Section 790.176, Florida Statutes, is created to
16 read:

17 790.176 Requirements for safe storage of firearms and
18 ammunition in motor vehicles and vessels.-

19 (1) As used in this section, the term:

20 (a) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in s.
21 320.01(1).

22 (b) "Trunk" means the fully enclosed and locked main
23 storage compartment of a motor vehicle which is not accessible
24 from the passenger compartment. The term does not include a
25 compartment that has a window, the bed of a pickup truck, or the
26 rear area of a hatchback, station wagon-type motor vehicle, or
27 sport utility motor vehicle.

28 (c) "Vessel" has the same meaning as in s. 327.02.

29 (2) A person who stores or leaves a firearm, whether loaded

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30 or unloaded, or ammunition in a motor vehicle or vessel under
31 his or her control while the person is not in the motor vehicle
32 or vessel must keep the firearm or ammunition locked inside the
33 trunk, inside a locked utility or glove box, or inside a locked
34 container securely affixed to the motor vehicle or vessel.

35 (3) A person who violates subsection (2) commits a
36 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.
37 775.082 or s. 775.083.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.