

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATOR CORTEZ AND REPRESENTATIVE STUART BISHOP

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, and the office of motor vehicles to promote statewide, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *Where's baby? Look before you lock* campaign.

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *Where's baby? Look before you lock* campaign is a joint effort between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Safe Kids Worldwide to prevent child deaths from heatstroke; and

WHEREAS, heatstroke (medically termed "hyperthermia") is the leading cause of noncrash vehicle-related deaths for children under the age of fourteen, with at least thirty-three fatalities reported within the United States for the year 2011; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, there were forty-nine vehicular heatstroke deaths of such children within the United States; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, at least five hundred thirty-two children nationwide have lost their lives to vehicular heatstroke, with most deaths occurring among children three years of age and younger; and

WHEREAS, an unknown number of children are injured each year due to vehicular heatstroke, suffering ailments including permanent brain injury, blindness, and loss of hearing, among others; and

WHEREAS, parents and caregivers are the first line of defense against vehicular heatstroke deaths and injuries; and

WHEREAS, heatstroke deaths and injuries often occur after a child enters an unlocked vehicle to play unbeknownst to the parent or caregiver, or when a parent or caregiver who is not used to transporting a child as part of his daily routine inadvertently

forgets an infant in a rear-facing car seat in the back of the vehicle.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, and the office of motor vehicles to promote statewide, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's *Where's baby? Look before you lock* campaign.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, public safety services, and the office of motor vehicles.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES