



SUPPORT HB 1179
IMMUNITY FOR EMERGENCY RESCUES
Representatives Lori Saine and Joann Ginal
Senators Vicki Marble and Lois Court

- Provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for citizens who forcibly enter a vehicle for the purpose of rendering assistance to an at-risk person or animal.
- To receive immunity, Good Samaritans must determine that the vehicle is locked and the person or animal is in imminent danger; make reasonable effort to locate the driver; notify law enforcement; use no more force than necessary; and remain with the person or animal until law enforcement arrives.
- The bill protects infants, at-risk adults with intellectual or development disabilities, at-risk elders, at-risk juveniles, cats, and dogs.
- Coloradans value their family members and pets, yet some mistakenly believe that animals can be comfortably or safely left in a car, or that their infant is safe in a child-seat for just a few minutes. The bill will raise awareness about the dangers of leaving people and pets in parked cars, and prevent needless suffering.
- Protecting people and pets from a prolonged, suffering death due to organ failure or heatstroke in a hot car is a problem we can all agree to prevent.
- Seven other states have passed similar legislation: California, Florida, Massachusetts, Ohio, Tennessee, Vermont, Wisconsin.
- Several other states are considering bills this year: Arizona, Connecticut, Indiana, Maryland, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon and Texas.
- About 38 children die in cars every year, and half of them are under 2 years old.
- The body temperatures of children can increase faster than adults, and heat stroke begins when the body passes 104 degrees.
- This bill would allow Good Samaritans to rescue people and pets in dangerous conditions and help to prevent needless deaths when first responders are not able to arrive at the scene in enough time.

For more information, please contact: Representative Lori Saine