

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 53

Short Title: Firearm in Unattended Vehicle/Safely Store. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Morey, Autry, Logan, and Longest (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

February 7, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LEAVING A FIREARM IN AN UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE
UNLESS THE VEHICLE IS LOCKED AND THE FIREARM IS SECURED OR
OTHERWISE SAFELY STORED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 35 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
a new section to read:

"§ 14-269.9. Firearms in unattended motor vehicles.

(a) Definition. – For purposes of this section, the term "firearm" is as defined in
G.S. 14-408.1.

(b) Prohibition. – It is unlawful to leave a firearm in an unattended motor vehicle unless
the vehicle is locked and the firearm is either (i) secured with a trigger lock or other safety device
designed to prevent an unauthorized user from operating the firearm or (ii) in a locked container.

(c) Penalty. – Any person who violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of a Class
2 misdemeanor."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses
committed on or after that date.

