



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 986 Printer's No. 1216

Prime Sponsor: Senator Pileggi
Committee: Judiciary

SYNOPSIS:

This bill amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) to provide civil immunity for property damage resulting from an attempt to rescue a minor from a motor vehicle under certain circumstances.

SUMMARY:

This bill establishes immunity from civil liability for property damage when the damage occurs during the rescue of a minor from a motor vehicle. In order to qualify for immunity under this legislation, the person rescuing the child must do all of the following:

- Determine that the motor vehicle is locked or that there is otherwise no reasonable way for the minor to exit the vehicle.
- Have a reasonable and good-faith belief that forcible entry into the vehicle is necessary because the minor is in imminent danger of suffering harm if not immediately removed from the vehicle.
- Contact the local law enforcement agency, the fire department, or 911 emergency dispatcher before attempting the removal or as soon as possible after the removal.
- Remain with the minor at a safe location near the vehicle until a law enforcement officer arrives.
- Use no more force than necessary for the removal.

The bill does not grant immunity to a person who exercises gross negligence or willful misconduct or otherwise renders aid beyond the circumstances prescribed by this bill.

Effective Date: This bill is effective in 60 days.

BILL HISTORY:

There is no bill history during this legislative session.

Prepared by: Cawley 11/16/2015