

HB

77

13 AAC 02.480. Unattended motor vehicle

Statute text

No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle may permit it to stand unattended by an adult person without first stopping the engine, placing the transmission in gear or in park position, locking the ignition, removing the key from the ignition and, if there is not a reasonable possibility of freezing, setting the brake. When standing upon a grade, a driver shall turn the front wheels toward the curb or near the edge of the highway in such a manner that if the unattended vehicle should roll from its standing position, the movement will be in the direction toward the curb or near the edge of the highway and away from the roadway.

History

History: In effect before 7/28/59; am 12/15/61, Register 3; am 8/10/66, Register 22; am 12/31/69, Register 31; am 6/28/79, Register 70

Annotations

*Leaving a vehicle running
unattended is not prohibited
by statute, but by regulation
This is the regulation.*

Alaska State Legislature



Chair

Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

Vice-Chair

Labor and Commerce Committee

Member

Resources Committee
State Affairs Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees

House Environmental Conservation
House Military & Veterans' Affairs
House Court System

A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

Session:

Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us

March 3, 2003

To: Representative Lesil McGuire, Chairman
Judiciary Committee

Fr: Representative Bob Lynn

Re: Scheduling of HB 77
"An Act allowing certain motor vehicles to be operated while unattended."

Please schedule HB 77 to be heard before the Judiciary Committee as soon as your calendar allows it. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Lynn", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 77

“An Act allowing certain motor vehicles to be operated while unattended”

This bill is in response to an January 29, 2003 Anchorage Daily News article headline, “Starting car from afar is just the (\$40) ticket.” The article describes how a lady received a traffic ticket for starting her “unattended” car with a remote starter. The violation described in the newspaper article is based on 1978 Anchorage Municipal Code.

However, current state law *also* prohibits allowing “certain motor vehicles to be running while unattended.” This state prohibition is obsolete. It is “Model T crank-your-engine” law in a remote starter age.

Legislative research dated February 18, 2003 indicates that, in 2002, approximately 1,000,000 remote car starters were sold nationwide, and that sales have increased some 10% to 15% annually. Additionally GM has announced plans to offer remote starters as factory options on certain 2004 automobile models (which will probably spur optional remote starters to be offered by other automobile manufacturers). According to six dealers in Anchorage, 11,000 remote starters were sold in 2002; according to three dealers in Fairbanks, 4,400 were sold there in 2002. This probably represents only 40% to 50% of statewide remote starter sales. It is claimed that Alaska has one of the highest per capita remote starters install rates in the nation.

The number of remote starters currently in use in Alaska is unknown. However, my conservative estimate would probably be at least 10 to 15% of our Alaska vehicles.

Due to extremely cold climates in several areas of Alaska, it has long been common practice for drivers to leave automobiles running unattended, while business is conducted indoors nearby. Failure to leave an automobile running would not only be uncomfortable when returning to a cold car, it's also likely the car could not be started. Allowance in the law needs to be made for Alaska weather conditions.

HB 77 will repair the current obsolete law, and permit an automobile to have its engine running, so long as the vehicle is locked, and is not occupied by a child under 14 or a disabled person. I urge your support of this bill!

Alaska State Legislature



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Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

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Sectional Analysis for HB 77

Section 1. Decriminalizes the use of remote starters in unoccupied locked motor vehicles.

REMOTE CONTROL

Starting car from afar is just the (\$40) ticket

Contemporary cold-weather technology collides with ordinance from 1978

By TATABOLINE BRANT
Anchorage Daily News

One cold day in January, Natalie Aiken parked her Chrysler Concord on Fifth Avenue and went inside a gift shop to look around. Before she left, she remote started her car. Back at the vehicle, Aiken found a \$40 ticket under her windshield wiper.

"I thought it was for an expired meter or something, but it wasn't," she said.

It was for having the car running without a driver.

"I was shocked," said Aiken, who had just installed the remote starter in Decem-

ber. "I was like, 'Are these things illegal?' ... I was horrified that I had broken this law."

Aiken told her husband, Bruce, about the ticket. How could it be illegal to remote start your car in Alaska in the winter? He had never heard of such a law. "Even the place we had it installed didn't know about it," he said.

The ticket pointed the Aikens to Title 9, a thick part of the Municipal Code that deals with vehicles and traffic. Under Chapter 36, Section 010, the couple found "Duties of driver on leaving vehicle unattended," which said:

"No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle may permit it to stand on a public street unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway. If a vehicle is left running in a public or private parking lot, the hand brake shall be left on and any automatic transmission shall be placed in the 'park' mode."

The law dates back to March 1978, long

See Page A-6, REMOTE

ADN 1/29/03 Front page

REMOTE: \$40 ticket

Continued from A-1

before remote starters became popular. Few people today seem to know it exists. Deputy municipal attorney Bruce Roberts looked up the ordinance when asked about it Monday. "I'll be darned," he said. "Who knew?"

The Aikens were told the law was designed to prevent vehicle thefts and pollution, Natalie Aiken said.

But if the Assembly members of the pipeline construction days were concerned about emissions, then why does it appear to be OK to leave a vehicle idling in a private or public parking lot? As for thefts, most remote starters have anti-theft features built in. If you try to drive the vehicle away without putting the key in the ignition, for example, the engine dies.

Assemblyman Allan Tesche, unfamiliar with Section 010, looked it over Tuesday. Indeed, it seemed to prohibit people from remote starting vehicles on public streets in Anchorage, he said.

One could argue, however, that with all its anti-theft features, a vehicle started with a remote starter is properly attended, Tesche said. "If I was a sleazy defense attorney, that would be my argument," he said.

"It is not at all unusual to find a provision of law that has been passed by by technology," Tesche said. "The bottom line is, the ordinance could be out of date."

Few people get cited under the law today. Of the thousands of parking tickets issued by Anchorage police in 2002, 11 were for vehicles left unattended and running, said police spokeswoman Anita Shell.

Bruce Aiken said an officer told him he sees cars and trucks in violation "quite a bit," but usually waits for the owner to return and gives the person a warning. Natalie Aiken said that on the day she was ticketed, her vehicle ran for 20 minutes.

The state law regarding idling, unattended vehicles appears to be more restrictive than the city's. It says no person driving or in charge of a vehicle can leave it running unattended anywhere.

So is it illegal to leave your car warming up even in your own driveway?

"Technically, yes," said Alaska State Troopers spokesman Greg Wilkinson. "But this is not something we are actively enforcing."

Troopers aim to enforce the spirit of the law, Wilkinson said. If someone leaves young children in a running car at the grocery store, for example, it's a safety issue and there's a very good chance they'll get a ticket, he said. Same goes for someone who leaves a car unlocked and running in a place where it can easily get stolen.

"We are not actively pursuing enforcement of cars with remote starters," Wilkinson said. "The remote car starters have safety factors built into them. They're pretty bulletproof."

Reporter Tataboline Brant can be reached at 257-4321.

Anch Daily News

CS 1/29/03 Front page

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH REPORT

FEBRUARY 18, 2003



REPORT NUMBER 03.114

REMOTE VEHICLE STARTERS: PREVALENCE AND USE

PREPARED FOR REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN

BY CHERIE NIENHUIS, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

You asked for information about the prevalence and use of remote vehicle starters in Alaska. Your inquiry stems from an incident whereby an Anchorage resident received a ticket for violating the municipality's ordinance against leaving a vehicle unattended. The resident had used a remote vehicle starter to start the car and warm the engine before returning to her vehicle.

Ten to fifteen years ago, remote car starter sales represented a small portion of automotive aftermarket sales. DesignTech International, Inc., a firm that manufactures electronic automobile accessories, began offering remote car starters to consumers in 1987, but did not see significant sales increases until the past couple of years. According to the company's press release, dated July 10, 2000, DesignTech estimated that remote car starter sales would increase about 50% for the year. President Skip West believes the market is still largely untapped—the average consumer, Mr. West explains, “still thinks of James Bond or spaceships when remote car starters are mentioned.” According to the press release, manufacturers predict that remote starters will someday become standard features on the majority of vehicles.¹

Mr. West is a member of the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), an organization that promotes growth and development of the consumer electronics industry. Although remote car starter sales are no longer tracked by the CEA, Mr. West estimates that approximately one million were sold industry-wide in 2002, and that sales have typically increased 10 to 15 percent a year for the half dozen or more manufacturers.² A large portion of the sales are to consumers living in cold climates, Mr. West added. A couple of years ago, several members of the CEA formed a remote car starter group, whose aim was to adopt industry-wide strategies to increase the market for starters, and to deal with issues facing manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and consumers who purchase them. They have also worked to curtail legislation in areas that prohibit vehicles

¹ “Remote Car Starter Sales Expected to Rise Again in 2000,” DesignTech International, Inc., July 10, 2000; we include a copy of this press release as Attachment A.

² Skip West can be reached at (703) 866-2000, ext. 102.

from running unattended on public streets. Although Mr. West could not provide specifics on the group's activities, he indicated his willingness, as well as the CEA's, to assist in providing testimony and information to state legislatures.³

During the last decade, technology and interest in remote car starters has increased to the extent that they are often integrated with car alarm/anti-theft devices and are now available from a wide selection of retailers at very moderate prices. For example, we found one such device, a "car-alarm, remote starter combo, with keyless entry," advertised for sale through an Internet retailer for \$74.99.⁴ Most automobile sales and repair businesses install remote starters, as do a number of electronics specialty shops. According to Mr. West, although installation is not simple, it does not require a trained technician, and his company offers assistance to consumers who wish to install the devices themselves.

Given the numerous retailers and installers of remote car starters in Alaska and elsewhere, we cannot accurately estimate how many vehicles in Alaska are equipped with them. It is fair to say that substantially more vehicles have them now than when the State promulgated its current regulation regarding unattended vehicles.⁵ Additionally, the General Motors Corporation recently announced plans to offer remote vehicle starters as factory options on certain 2004 models, a development some believe may spur other automakers to follow.⁶

Some municipalities across the country pass ordinances regarding the length of time a vehicle can sit at idle. In addition to addressing safety concerns, another purpose of these ordinances is to reduce vehicle emissions—a significant contributor to air pollution. In Waterloo, Ontario, residents recently formed a task force to investigate the prevalence of vehicle idling and to assess drivers' attitudes about placing limits on the amount of time they are allowed to let their vehicle idle. Natural Resources Canada recommends that vehicles be idled for no longer than 10 seconds—idling longer than 10 seconds causes vehicles to burn gas almost twice as fast as driving, and produces almost double the amount of toxic emissions per second than a vehicle moving at average speed. Rather than to create a bylaw to curtail vehicle idling, the task force decided to run a public education campaign, which they hope will increase awareness of the problem and convince residents to examine and perhaps alter their idling habits.⁷

I hope you find this information useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or need additional information.

³ Doug Johnson is the legislative liaison for the CEA. (703) 907-7686.

⁴ The auto device was offered through commandocaralarms.com.

⁵ 13 AAC 02.480 prohibits leaving a running vehicle unattended.

⁶ Jim Mateja, "GM to Make Remote Starter Factory Option," *Chicagotribune.com*, November 11, 2002. We include a copy of this article as Attachment B.

⁷ Lori Strothard, "Stop Idling Cars and Save Both Gas and the Environment," *TheReccrd.com*, December 26, 2002. We include a copy of this article as Attachment C.

Attachment A

**"Remote Car Starter Sales Expected to Rise Again in 2000,"
DesignTech International, Incorporated, July 10, 2000**

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July 10, 2000
For Immediate Release

Remote Car Starter Sales Expected to Rise Again In 2000

From their once small percentage of sales in the automotive aftermarket, remote car starter sales are now increasing faster than sales of many other products in the aftermarket industry. Remote car starters have shed their old image as a seasonal, luxury, or hard-to-find product to become a popularly demanded item in all types of outlets from automotive parts shops to discount warehouse clubs. Manufacturers and retailers have taken notice of the high potential sales of remote car starters and will be marketing them more seriously this year.



Remote car starters are no longer just a last minute gift holiday gift.

Nearly all remote car starter manufacturers are expecting double-digit sales increases for remote starters this year. DesignTech International expects remote car starter sales to jump about 50% this year.

Marketing strategies for remote car starters are rapidly changing to support the expanding market. For many retailers, remote starters are one of the hottest selling automotive products in the fourth quarter. However, one of the most significant changes in marketing strategies is that remote car starters are no longer considered a seasonal

fourth quarter product. Manufacturers and retailers are now realizing that they have been more responsible than consumers for imposing the mistaken belief that remote car starters can only be sold in the winter. Surveys taken by many remote starter manufacturers over the past two to three years have shown that a high percentage of consumers are as concerned with pre-cooling their car in the summer as they are concerned with pre-heating their car in the winter. Manufacturers and retailers are now trying to tap into this opportunity by beginning to market the benefits of having a remote car starter in the summer.

In addition to being increasingly sold year round, remote car starters are increasingly sold as a deluxe feature on alarm or keyless entry systems. One main reason that the remote car starter market is growing so quickly is because consumers who are looking for only a simple car alarm or a keyless entry system now often choose to spend a little extra to buy deluxe all-in-one systems. Car enthusiasts and new car buyers are the most likely to purchase all-in-one systems because they often don't want the high cost and inconvenience of purchasing and installing separate remote starter, alarm, and keyless entry systems.

One of the major challenges that the industry is trying to meet this year is marketing remote car starters to an older and more female demographic group than the traditional young male automotive parts buyers. A variety of new features have appeared recently on remote car starters in attempts to appeal to a wider range of consumers. Multi-car capability is one new feature that is designed to appeal to families and older consumers. Transmitters with multi-car capability offer consumers the convenience of carrying only one transmitter on a keychain instead of two or more.

DesignTech International is offering newly designed AutoCommand[®] transmitters for the '00 season that have the ability to control multiple cars with AutoCommand units.

Another hot feature that consumers are looking for this year is programmable automatic starting at a specific time, battery voltage, or vehicle temperature. Users can program DesignTech's AutoCommand systems to automatically start a vehicle at pre-selected temperatures to warm up or cool down the vehicle or to automatically start at low battery voltage to prevent a dead battery. Prestige's APS-775 system can be programmed to start and run a vehicle for 10-15 minutes every 2 hours. AutoCommand systems can be programmed to automatically start at the same time the next day.

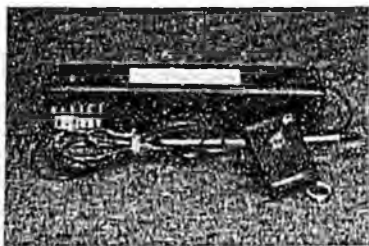
For quite some time, remote car starter manufacturers have been competing to have transmitters with the longest range. Unlike alarms and keyless entry systems, remote car starters require a minimum of 300-400 feet of range and most manufacturers advertise 500-1000 or more feet of range. However, remote start systems with ranges beyond 1,500 feet often require cumbersome extendable antennas on transmitters or special antennas for the car to achieve the additional range.

Transmitter ranges are a hotly contested issue in the remote starter industry because ranges farther than 1,500 to 2,000 feet are often only reached by overstepping the government's legal limits for radio transmissions. Many two-way transmitters have been measured to be above the FCC's limits since two-way transmissions usually require more power than standard one-way systems. Certain remote starter manufacturers are now working with the FCC to level the playing field and crack down on manufacturer's who use illegal transmitter ranges.

The biggest demands of average consumers this year are for remote car starters to be easily available, low cost, safe, dependable, and easy to install. Remote car starter manufacturers are meeting these demands by increasing distribution, offering remote car starters for extremely competitive prices, redesigning transmitters and cases, designing greater numbers of safety and easy-installation features, and increasing technical support.

In order to handle the exploding number of remote car starter sales expected this year, manufacturers are strengthening technical support and increasing the number and quality of easy-installation features to cut down the number of tech calls. DesignTech International increased their technical support staff by over 60% this past year to meet the greater number of tech calls. A few manufacturers even include installation videos in some packages to make the remote starter friendlier to do-it-yourself installers who benefit from the greater visual detail in videos. Of course, technical support on manufacturers' web sites is as critical as ever.

Despite new features that are constantly being developed for remote car starters, sales of basic remote car starters remain the highest in the fourth quarter, when many end up as holiday gifts. Remote starters have turned into a very big holiday gift item



DesignTech's popular
AutoCommand 20021

within the past two years. The best-selling remote car starter for this year will most likely continue to be DesignTech International's basic AutoCommand Remote Car Starter (model 20021) because average consumers want AutoCommand's safety and dependability but don't want to spend extra on additional features such as keyless

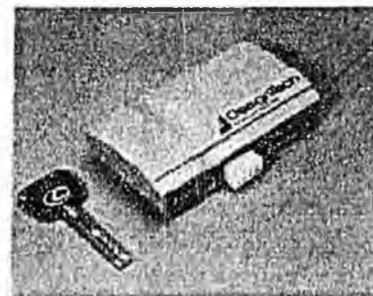
entry and an alarm. Although car enthusiasts usually want deluxe models of remote car starters with fancier features, average consumers tend to favor basic remote starters with low enough prices to justify impulse purchases. As always, appealing product design and packaging are also extremely important to attract impulse buyers.

Another way that manufacturers are helping make remote car starters easier to sell and install is by offering security system bypass modules. The use of bypass modules is now widespread due to the increasing number of vehicles that come with a factory-installed security system. The majority of mid-priced to luxury vehicles manufactured since 1998 have some type of factory-installed anti-theft system. A large number of new vehicles this year such as Toyota Camry, Honda Accord, Ford Taurus, Nissan Maxima, Chevy Malibu, and many others have factory-installed anti-theft systems.

A bypass module temporarily turns off a vehicle's security system to allow remote starting and to prevent an alarm's horn or siren from sounding. A bypass module then turns the vehicle's anti-theft system back on once the car's engine is running. Some manufacturers such as Directed Electronics and

Crimestopper offer separate bypass modules for individual types of anti-theft systems. DesignTech International offers a Universal Alarm Bypass Module (model 20402).

DesignTech's one model can be used to bypass all types of factory-installed anti-theft systems including PATS, VATS, Passlock, transponder, and Saturn systems.



DesignTech's
Universal Alarm Bypass Module

Almost every retailer of remote car starters had satisfying remote car starter sales over the past year. Pep Boys, AutoZone, Murray's, VIP, and other automotive parts and accessories retailers continue to sell tens of thousands of remote car starters each year. Remote car starters have also become a commonly carried product at mass merchandisers over the past two years, with BJ's Wholesale Club, Bradlees, Costco, Kmart, Sears, and Target all carrying remote car starters in 1999.

"An end to the expansion of remote car starter sales is not in sight," says DesignTech President Skip West, "Although most remote car starter companies gained double-digit percentage sales increases this past year, the potential market for remote car starters is still mainly untapped. Remote car starters are such great convenience products, yet they are still relatively unknown to average consumers. The average consumer still thinks of James Bond or spaceships when remote car starters are mentioned. Until remote car starters become standard features on the majority of vehicles, sales should increase by large percentages every year. I expect remote car starter sales to increase dramatically from the current level before slowing down."

Digital images on CDROM or color slides are available upon request.

For more information, please contact:

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Attachment B

Jim Mateja, "GM to Make Remote Starter Factory Option,"
Chicagotribune.com, November 11, 2002

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<http://www.chicagotribune.com/classified/automotive/columnists/chi-0211110022nov11.0.7233171.column>

GM to make remote starter factory option

Jim Mateja

November 11, 2002

The wind is howling, the snow is blowing and your car is sitting outside waiting to chauffeur you to work.

Only you have to get to the car and warm it up for your trip. And none of the kids are home to perform the chore.

Be patient. Beginning in the '04 model year, General Motors will be the first automaker to offer a remote vehicle starter so you need only push a button on your key fob and the car will start and warm up while you have that second cup of coffee.

The system will be as beneficial for Floridians in July as it will be for Midwesterners in January because the idling car will get the air conditioner or the heater/defroster ready.

Remote starters aren't new. Aftermarket companies have sold them for years. What's new is that the GM system will be factory installed and factory warranted. That should lead Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, Honda and, well, you name it, to join in to keep GM from having a competitive edge.

Aftermarket units can run \$400, but no word on price as an option at GM.

One press of the key fob button activates the GM system--the headlamps will flash to let you know it's working. Push another button to start the engine.

When the system's on, the vehicle doors will automatically lock and any anti-theft system will engage. Once you feel the vehicle is sufficiently warmed or cooled, you can walk outside and unlock the doors by pressing a button on the key fob.

At any time after the remote start, you can shut the engine off by pressing a key fob button. And if you haven't entered the car within 10 minutes of the remote start and inserted the ignition key, the engine shuts off.

To guard against someone in the house unknowingly pushing the fob when Dad is in the garage working on the car, the system won't start the engine if the hood is open.

The system also checks engine oil pressure, engine temperature, engine r.p.m., throttle position, brake/transmission shift interlock and battery voltage. Any problems, and remote start won't function. So you can't override a dead battery or the fact you left the car parked in "drive."

Though the engine will be running, you must insert the key in the ignition to take the gear selector out of "park" to get moving. The reason, of course, is that the key has a theft code imbedded in it to prevent someone from slipping into the idling car and motoring away.

No word on which GM vehicles will offer a remote starter. GM spokesman Alan Gagne said it will be available as an option in a variety of 2004 cars.

Gagne said some of the vehicles offering remote start will come with automatic climate control and some with manual climate control, which means it probably will be in more than just upper-end models.

Sportage hiatus: To increase production capacity on new 2003 Sorento midsize sport-utility vehicle, Kia Motors had to halt production of its subcompact Sportage SUV that's been sold in the U.S. since the 1995 model year.

Peter Butterfield, executive vice president and chief executive of Kia Motors, says the capacity problem should be resolved and Sportage--or a replacement of the same size--will return in '04 or '05.

Sorento is important to Kia because it is expected to attract buyers with an average age of 40 and average household income of \$62,000, which compares with an average age of 46 and average household income level of \$82,000 for the midsize SUV segment, Butterfield said. Kia buyers now average 39 and income of \$45,000.

By the way, that's local-boy-makes-good Peter Butterfield, a graduate of New Trier High School in Wilmette and Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

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Attachment C

Lori Strothard, "Stop Idling Cars and Save Both Gas and the Environment," *TheRecord.com*, December 26, 2002

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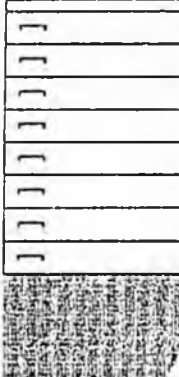
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Exploring the challenges and opportunities of growth faced by Waterloo Region.

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Stop idling cars and save both gas and the environment

Thursday December 26, 2002
LORI STROTHARD

For the past two years, the Idling Reduction Task Force, a subcommittee of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Air Quality (Waterloo Region) has been investigating what are the correct things to do regarding vehicle idling.

The good news is that the behaviours that best reduce air pollution are also the best ways for drivers to save money and increase engine longevity.

We decided on a public education campaign rather than a bylaw after hearing how other cities which have idling bylaws -- which allow idling up to three, five or 10 minutes -- not only have major enforcement problems, but the real recommended limit on idling, according to Natural Resources Canada, is only 10 seconds.

That's right. For all cars built in the 1970s or later with catalytic converters, it is proven to be better for your vehicle, your gas consumption and the environment, to turn your engine off when stopped or parked for longer than 10 seconds, and then you should restart your vehicle when needed.

Contrary to what many believe, this does not cause extra wear and tear on the starter or engine, nor an extra burst of gas when restarting.

In fact:

Idling for more than 10 seconds burns gas almost twice as fast as driving and produces almost double the amount of toxic emissions per second than a vehicle moving at average speed.

Leaving your car idling for more than short periods causes incomplete combustion which can damage engine components.

If for some reason you must idle, it is better to put your car in neutral. This rests the engine, fewer emissions are produced and your car will be quieter and vibrate less.

Exceptions to this rule would be extreme temperatures when you need to keep warm or cool in your vehicle, or to defrost a windshield, etc. But when possible, if waiting for someone, go inside the heated or air-conditioned building to wait, rather than sitting in your car, letting it idle.

Does this mean you should turn your car off at stoplights? The Natural Resources Canada answer to this is no. Because of the five per cent of cars which have trouble restarting, it doesn't recommend that people do this as common practice. In situations such as rush hour in Toronto, one stalled car can cause major tie-ups.

What about drive-throughs? Other than parking and going in to get your food, you can put your car in neutral while you are not moving. You could turn your engine off, but you never know when the line will start to move.

What about remote starters and pre-warming cars in winter? Vehicles in good working order do not need to be warmed up more than 30 seconds and the best way to warm up your engine is by driving it.

Remote starters can too easily cause people to warm up their cars for five to 15 minutes, which is generally unnecessary. Block heaters on timers (start one to two hours before driving) are good for very cold temperatures.

We need to be careful about how much we idle our cars because, despite all the seemingly modern advances in pollution controls, cars still produce, on average, 2.4 kilograms of air pollution for every 10 kilometre we drive -- that's like producing a 10-pound bag of potatoes equivalent weight of toxic air for every 20 kilometres.

And it all ties into things like the skyrocketing asthma cases in children (cases have increased four-fold in the last 20 years), and the extreme heat and droughts we have been experiencing.


Scientists are reporting air pollution is now inhibiting the ability of water vapour in clouds to form water droplets -- rain. We have to drive our cars for a lot of reasons, so whenever we don't need to be running our cars, we shouldn't.

So, next time you are wondering whether to keep the car running or turn it off while waiting for someone etc., turn it off. We must keep our air -- one of our essential life-support systems -- as healthy and clean as possible.

For more information, visit the local air quality Web site at www.airqualitywaterlooregion.org or Natural Resources Canada's site called The Idle-Free Zone at <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/autosmart/idling>.

Next week: Restorative landscaping.

Lori Strothard is the chairwoman of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Air Quality (Waterloo Region) and has been a member of the Vehicle Idling Reduction Task Force since 2000. She is also chairwoman of the Waterloo Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee.

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225 Fairway Road South,
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519-894-2231



THE RECORD

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Re: car remote starters

Subject: Re: car remote starters

Date: Fri, 14 Feb 2003 20:19:18 EST

From: MikeAllanEllis@cs.com

To: Nancy_Manly@Legis.state.ak.us

Nancy, I surveyed a number of the dealers in both Fairbanks and Anchorage. Of the six dealers I spoke with in Anchorage, they claim to have sold 11,000 remote starts in last year. I spoke with three dealers in Fairbanks, who put their sales at about 4400 last year. I did get an e mail passed on to me from the mayor of Fairbanks claiming they promote the usage of remote starts as they help cut down on air pollution. Apparently a warm running car is much less prone to harmful exhaust than a cold car.

Anyway these numbers do not fully represent the total number sold but maybe between 40% and 50% state wide by my rough estimate.

Please feel free to contact me for any other information you may need.

**Mike Ellis w/Forty-Niner Marketing
7803 45th Southwest
Seattle, WA 98136 206-940-3215**

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 77
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Law
 Title "An Act allowing certain motor vehicles to be BRU Criminal Division
operated while unattended." Component Criminal Justice Litigation
 Sponsor Representative Lynn
 Requester House Judiciary Committee Component No. 2202

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type—Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill prohibits the adoption of a regulation forbidding operation of a motor vehicle while it is unattended. This provision would not apply to an unlocked motor vehicle, or one occupied by a disabled person or a person under 14 years old.

Passage of this legislation will have no fiscal impact on the Department of Law.

Prepared by: Joan M. Kasson Phone (907) 465-5370
 Division: Attorney General's Office Date/Time 3/11/03 11:02 AM
 Approved by: Kathryn Daughhete for Gregg D. Renkes, Attorney General Date 3/11/2003
 Agency: Department of Law

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
 Bill Version: HB 77
 () Publish Date: _____

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Public Safety
 Title An Act allowing certain motor BRU Alaska State Troopers
vehicles to be operated.... Component AST Detachments
 Sponsor Representative Lynn
 Requester House Judiciary Component No. 2325

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Lieutenant Matthew Leveque
 Division: Alaska State Troopers
 Approved by: William Tandeske, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Public Safety

Phone 907 269-0390
 Date/Time 3/12/03 9:30 AM
 Date 3/12/2003