

ORDINANCE NO. 32 - 23

By: Sam Marcellino

An Ordinance to add Section 618.25 Animals in Unattended Motor Vehicles, in order to protect the health and welfare of animals in unattended vehicles.

WHEREAS, Bexley's animal citizens are family members and close companions; and

WHEREAS, Each year hundreds of pets die from heat exhaustion from being left in parked cars; and

WHEREAS, The temperature inside a vehicle can rise almost 20° F in just 10 minutes, and almost 30° F in 20 minutes. At one hour, a vehicle's inside temperature can be more than 40 degrees higher than the outside temperature. Even on a 70-degree day, that's 110 degrees inside a vehicle;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY, OHIO:

Section 1.

That Section 618.25 be created to read as follows:

618.25 Animals in Unattended Motor Vehicles

(a) No person shall leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

(b) Whoever violates this Section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree for a first offense; whoever violates this Section for a second or subsequent offense is guilty of a misdemeanor in the third degree. In addition, for second or subsequent violations, the Court may order the offender to forfeit the animals.

Section 2.

That this Ordinance shall go into effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed _____, 2023

Troy Markham, President of Council

Attest:

Matt McPeek, Clerk of Council

Approved: _____, 2023

Benjamin Kessler, Mayor