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**SENATE BILL NO. 496**  
**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
(Proposed by the House Committee on Public Safety  
on February 27, 2026)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Marsden)

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1215.1, relating to firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-1215.1 as follows:**

**§ 46.2-1215.1. Firearm in unattended motor vehicle; civil penalty.**

*A. For purposes of this section, an "unattended motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is left unattended on a public highway or other public property and the owner, operator, or any passenger of such motor vehicle is unable to observe such motor vehicle.*

*B. No person shall leave, place, or store any handgun, as defined in § 18.2-307.1, in any unattended motor vehicle when such handgun is visible to any person who is outside such unattended motor vehicle.*

*C. Any person convicted of a violation of this section is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$500.*

*All penalties collected under this section shall be paid into the state treasury to be credited to the Virginia Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund as provided in § 9.1-116.6.*

*D. For purposes of § 46.2-1213, any violation of this section deems the unattended motor vehicle as illegally parked, and such unattended motor vehicle may be subject to removal.*

**HOUSE SUBSTITUTE**

SB496H1