

ORDINANCE NO. 29

AN ORDINANCE PRESCRIBING THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY A MOTORIST UPON LEAVING AN AUTOMOBILE UNATTENDED, INCLUDING REMOVAL OF THE IGNITION KEY FROM THE VEHICLE; AUTHORIZING THE POLICE TO REMOVE IGNITION KEYS LEFT IN UNATTENDED VEHICLES; AND IMPOSING A PENALTY.

WHEREAS, automobile thefts have shown an alarming increase over the past ten years, and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of automobile thefts are of automobiles left unattended with the key in the ignition or the ignition unlocked; and

WHEREAS, this negligence on the part of the motorists provides the opportunity to juvenile and teenage offenders as well as to professional automobile thieves to commit this crime; and

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that the enactment and enforcement of Lock Your Car Ordinances drastically reduce automobile thefts;

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

SECTION 1. LEAVING UNATTENDED VEHICLE. No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended in any public place, without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the ignition key from the vehicle, effectively setting the brake thereon and, when standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway.

SECTION 2. ACTION BY POLICE OFFICER. Whenever any police officer shall find a motor vehicle standing unattended with the ignition key in the vehicle, in violation of this section, such police officer is authorized to remove such key.

SECTION 3. PRESUMPTION. The registered owner of a vehicle found in violation of this section shall be held prima facie responsible for any such violation.


SECTION 4. PENALTY. The penalty for violation of this section shall be a fine with a minimum amount of \$5.00 or a maximum amount of \$25.00.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Passed by the Common Council this 5th day of May, 1969.
Approved by the Mayor this 5th day of May, 1969


Bernard W. LaForge, Mayor

ATTEST:


Doris Cokeram, Recorder

