
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

January 24, 2018

Ald. Terry Witkowski
(414) 731-0472

Legislation seeks to increase ignition and key security in Milwaukee

Alderman Witkowski sponsored files to be heard by Public Safety and Health Committee tomorrow

A pair of proposed ordinances sponsored by **Alderman Terry L. Witkowski** aim to prevent motor vehicle thefts by decreasing access to ignition keys.

The **Public Safety and Health Committee** will take up both of the ordinances during its meeting **at 9 a.m. tomorrow – Thursday, January 25** – in room 301-B at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.

Council file **#171521** would prohibit motorists from leaving a vehicle unattended with the keys inside parked on **private property**, including any vehicle parked on a driveway, parking slab, parking lot or other outdoor location on private property. City code currently prohibits a person from leaving a motor vehicle unattended on a street or alley, or in any other public place, unless the starting lever, throttle, steering apparatus, gear shift, brake system or ignition of the vehicle is locked and the key for the lock is removed from the vehicle.

The proposed ordinance also increases the citation for a violation from \$22 to \$75, and the general penalty for violation from a range of \$22-\$60 to a range of \$75-\$105.

-More-

Legislation/ADD ONE

A second proposed ordinance, Council file #171287, would require that all keys to motor vehicles offered for rent at a car rental agency located within the city be placed in a secure lockbox inside the rental agency's building at all times when the agency is not open for business.

Anyone convicted for a first offense of the ordinance would forfeit not less than \$150 but not more than \$1,000 (together with the costs of prosecution and, in default of payment, may be imprisoned as provided by law). Anyone convicted of a second or subsequent offense would forfeit not less than \$500 but not more than \$2,000.

Thursday's meeting will be televised live on the City Channel (Channel 25 on Spectrum Cable and on AT&T U-Verse Channel 99) in the City of Milwaukee. It can also be viewed, via streaming video, on the city website at www.city.milwaukee.gov/Channel25.