



## **Jacob Fox Law**

*Respectfully Submitted by Senator Florence Shapiro*

**During these days of rising heat, we should all think about this fact: Studies prove that within just 10 minutes, the temperature inside a car can rise 20 degrees which can quickly become deadly in 105-degree heat.**

**Already this year, twenty-one children in the United States have died due to vehicular hyperthermia. Sadly, Texas has lead the nation with the most vehicle-related hyperthermia deaths during the past decade.**

**These facts underscore the importance of Senate Bill 572, which I authored and has been signed by Governor Perry. The legislation is called Jacob's Law, named after a precious young boy, Jacob Fox, who lost his life far too soon because of gross negligence. Jacob was left in a hot van by his daycare providers who were supposed to be watching out for him.**

**"Parents put their children on buses and in child care vans every day, under the assumption that their child will be safe and accounted for," Senator Shapiro said. "It is tragic that this has not been the case. It is my hope that with this bill, other parents will not have to face the grim reality that Jacob's mother did."**

**This bill now requires daycare providers, who transport children, to take part in training that will teach them simple techniques which can be used to avoid such a tragedy.**

**The standards in this law will improve the safe transport of our children by teaching daycare providers about the proper use of safety restraints, vehicle maintenance, proper behavior during transport, loading and unloading procedures, and safe accounting for each child and their well-being.**

**All too often, people mistakenly think for just a few minutes, they can leave their children, pets, and elderly or disabled in a hot car. That assumption is wrong and, too often, proves deadly.**

**All children in Texas will be served due to Jacob's Law. It is too late to bring Jacob back but his memory moves us forward, and so does the law named after him.**

**"I am so happy that this legislation was passed and named for my son, Jacob. I am hopeful that the lives of other innocent children will be saved, because of this bill," said Avonda Fox. "All children deserve to be protected – they are our future. Every mother wants her children to live long, happy, and successful lives, but Jacob didn't get that chance. However, Senator Shapiro's bill will help make sure that his name and his spirit live on."**