
By: **Senator Colburn**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: February 29, 2000

CHAPTER 531

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Noise Limitations - Penalty**

3 FOR the purpose of changing the penalty for a violation of the noise limitations on the
4 use of sound amplification systems from a civil penalty to a criminal fine of up
5 to a certain amount; and generally relating to vehicle laws and the penalty for
6 noise violations.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 21-1122
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article - Transportation
14 Section 27-101(a) and (b)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1

Article - Transportation

2 21-1122.

3 (a) In this section, "sound amplification system" means a compact disc player,
4 a radio, a tape player, or a similar device.

5 (b) This section does not apply to:

6 (1) Authorized emergency vehicles;

7 (2) Vehicles operated by communications, electric, gas, or water utilities;

8 (3) A sound amplification system operated to request assistance or to
9 warn of a hazardous situation; or

10 (4) Unless otherwise prohibited by local law, a sound amplification
11 system used for advertising, parades, or for political or other special events.

12 (c) When a motor vehicle is being operated on a highway, the driver of the
13 vehicle may not operate or permit the operation of a sound amplification system from
14 the vehicle that can be heard outside the vehicle from 50 or more feet.

15 [(d) A person who violates subsection (c) of this section is subject to a civil
16 penalty not exceeding \$50.]

17 (D) (1) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL
18 PENALTIES UNDER § 27-101 OF THIS ARTICLE.

19 (2) A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS NOT CONSIDERED A MOVING
20 VIOLATION FOR PURPOSES OF § 16-402 OF THIS ARTICLE.

21 27-101.

22 (a) It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of the
23 Maryland Vehicle Law unless the violation:

24 (1) Is declared to be a felony by the Maryland Vehicle Law or by any
25 other law of this State; or

26 (2) Is punishable by a civil penalty under the applicable provision of the
27 Maryland Vehicle Law.

28 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person convicted of a
29 misdemeanor for the violation of any of the provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law is
30 subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2000.

