A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Motor Vehicles – Modified Vehicle Exhaust System – Penalties

FOR the purpose of altering the penalty for modifying a motor vehicle exhaust system or noise abatement device in a certain manner or for driving on a highway a motor vehicle with an exhaust system or noise abatement device that is modified in a certain manner; establishing certain exceptions to the prohibitions governing modified motor vehicle exhaust systems or noise abatement devices; and generally relating to modified motor vehicle exhaust systems and noise abatement devices.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

  Article – Transportation
  Section 22–609
  Annotated Code of Maryland
  (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

22–609.

(a) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

(1) A HISTORIC MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTERED UNDER § 13–936 OF THIS ARTICLE;

(2) A HISTORIC TRUCK, TRACTOR, OR MOTOR HOME REGISTERED UNDER § 13–936.2 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(3) A street rod registered under § 13–937.1 of this article.

(B) (1) A person may not modify the exhaust system or any other noise abatement device of a motor vehicle driven or to be driven on any highway in this State in such a way that the noise emitted by the vehicle exceeds that emitted by the vehicle as originally manufactured.

[(b)] (2) A person may not drive on any highway in this State a motor vehicle with an exhaust system or noise abatement device modified in a way prohibited by paragraph (1) of this subsection [(a) of this section].

(C) If a police officer observes that a vehicle is being operated in violation of subsection (b) of this section, the officer may stop the driver of the vehicle and, in addition to a citation charging the driver with the offense, shall issue to the driver a safety equipment repair order in accordance with § 23–105 of this article.

(D) A person convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section is subject to:

(1) For a first offense, a fine of $200;

(2) For a second offense, a fine of $300; and

(3) For a third or subsequent offense, a fine of $400.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.