

SENATE BILL 616

R6

3lr2415

By: **Senator Corderman**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – Modified Exhaust Systems and Noise Abatement Devices –**
3 **Citations**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a police officer who observes a motor vehicle being operated
5 with a modified exhaust system or noise abatement device that causes the motor
6 vehicle to exceed a certain noise level in violation of law to stop the motor vehicle
7 and requiring the police officer to issue a citation for the violation; and generally
8 relating to modified exhaust systems and noise abatement devices on motor vehicles.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 22–609
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Transportation
16 Section 27–101
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 22–609.

23 (a) A person may not modify the exhaust system or any other noise abatement
24 device of a motor vehicle driven or to be driven on any highway in this State in such a way

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 that the noise emitted by the vehicle exceeds that emitted by the vehicle as originally
2 manufactured.

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

6 (c) **IF A POLICE OFFICER OBSERVES THAT A MOTOR VEHICLE IS BEING**
7 **OPERATED IN VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE POLICE**
8 **OFFICER MAY STOP THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND SHALL ISSUE A CITATION FOR THE**
9 **VIOLATION.**

10 27–101.

11 (a) A person who violates a provision of the Maryland Vehicle Law is guilty of a
12 misdemeanor unless the violation:

13 (1) Is a felony under the Maryland Vehicle Law; or

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

16 (b) Except as otherwise provided in the Maryland Vehicle Law, a person convicted
17 of a misdemeanor for a violation of a provision of the Maryland Vehicle Law is subject to a
18 fine not exceeding \$500.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2023.