

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4686

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 23, 2023

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4686 with committee amendments.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4686 establishes penalties for a person who commits a motor vehicle noise violation.

Under the amended bill, a person commits a motor vehicle violation pursuant to Title 39 (the motor vehicle code) if the person operates or amplifies a sound system, connected to or located within a motor vehicle, that violates the noise standards and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the “Noise Control Act,” P.L.1971, c.418 (C.13:1G-1 et seq.).

As introduced, the bill provided for the impoundment of nuisance motor vehicles, commonly referred to as boom cars, and allowed municipalities to seize and, in certain circumstances, destroy the vehicles. These penalties established under the bill, as introduced, were consistent with the penalties for snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and dirt bikes operated in violation of current law.

A person convicted of a first motor vehicle violation under the bill is subject to a fine of \$250. A person convicted of a second violation is subject to a fine of \$500. A person convicted of a third or subsequent violation under the bill is subject to a fine of \$750 and is to be assessed two motor vehicle penalty points.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to:

(1) provide that a person commits a motor vehicle violation if the person operates or amplifies a sound system, connected to or located within a motor vehicle, that violates the noise standards and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the “Noise Control Act,” P.L.1971, c.418 (C.13:1G-1 et seq.);

(2) provide that, for a first violation, a person is subject to a fine of \$250; for a second violation, a person is subject to a fine of \$500; and for a third or subsequent violation, a person is subject to a fine of \$750 and will be assessed two motor vehicle penalty points; and

(3) as introduced, the bill provided for the impoundment of nuisance motor vehicles, and allowed municipalities to seize and, in

certain circumstances, destroy the vehicles. The committee amendments eliminate these penalties.