

No person shall operate a motor vehicle on or off a highway in any intentional improper manner so as to cause skidding, spinning of wheels, or excessive noise. NOISE LEVELS IN EXCESS OF THOSE PROMULGATED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR UNDER SECTION 12-701(B) OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVE.

12-402.

(a) Every motor vehicle [at all times] HAVING AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE shall be equipped with [a] AN EXHAUST muffler SYSTEM in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise, and no person shall use a muffler cutout, bypass, or similar device upon a motor vehicle on a highway. NOISE LEVELS IN EXCESS OF THOSE PROMULGATED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR UNDER SECTION 12-701(B) OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVE.

(d) A muffler as used herein is defined as a device [consisting of a series of chambers or baffle plates, or other mechanical design for the purpose of receiving exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine] DESIGNED FOR, and effective in reducing noise WHILE PERMITTING THE FLOW OF GASES.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That new Sections 12-701 through 12-704 to be under the new subheading "Part VII. Noise Abatement Program" be and they are hereby added to Article 66-1/2 - Vehicle Laws, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 66-1/2 - Vehicle Laws

PART VII. NOISE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

12-701.

(A) NO PERSON SHALL OPERATE A MOTOR VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES OF A TYPE SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE, NOR SHALL THE OWNER OR LESSEE PERMIT THE OPERATION OF SUCH MOTOR VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES UPON THE HIGHWAYS OF THIS STATE AT ANY TIME, AT ANY SPEED UNDER ANY CONDITION OF GRADE, LOAD, ACCELERATION OR DECELERATION IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO EXCEED THE MAXIMUM SOUND LEVEL LIMITS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR VARIOUS CLASSES OF MOTOR VEHICLES, AND CONDITIONS OF OPERATION.

(B) THE ADMINISTRATOR SHALL, WITH THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AND SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, AFTER A PUBLIC HEARING