

293.

(b) No vehicle shall be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a vehicle any siren, whistle, or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this subsection. It is permissible that any vehicle be equipped with a theft alarm signal device which is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal. Any authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle or bell, capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 500 feet and of a type approved by the Department, but such siren shall not be used except when such vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, in which said latter events the driver of such vehicle shall sound said siren when necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach thereof. *Provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, vehicles from which ice cream products and similar products are sold may be equipped with, and the driver thereof may use, a bell not exceeding three and one-half (3-1/2) inches in diameter, or a set of such bells; provided that no such bell or set of bells shall be OPERATED BY MECHANICAL OR ELECTRICAL MEANS OR BY ANY MEANS OTHER THAN MANUALLY, NOR BE AMPLIFIED BY ANY ELECTRICAL OR ELECTRONIC MEANS, NOR BE capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of more than four hundred (400) feet; and provided further that no such bell shall be used for any purpose between the hours of ten o'clock p.m. and eight o'clock a.m., nor be used as an ordinary warning signal at any time.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.*

Approved March 5, 1964.

CHAPTER 4

(House Bill 126)

AN ACT to add a new Section 269A to Article 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Operation of Vehicles upon Highways," to follow immediately after Section 269 thereof, providing for the time of retirement for any person regularly employed to operate a school bus who is a member of certain retirement or pension systems, and relating generally to the time and manner of any such person retiring from or ceasing such work.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That a new Section 269A be and it is hereby added to Article 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Motor Ve-*