



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 5175



Offered by:

REP. FELIPE, 130th Dist.
REP. REYES, 75th Dist.
REP. ROSARIO, 128th Dist.

REP. CANDELARIA J., 95th Dist.
REP. JACOBSON, 148th Dist.
REP. BERGER-GIRVALO, 111th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5464

File No. 418

Cal. No. 302

(As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A")

"AN ACT IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO OPERATE AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES ON LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAYS."

1 Strike section 31 of House Amendment Schedule "A" and substitute
2 the following in lieu thereof:

3 "Sec. 31. Section 14-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

5 (a) Each motor vehicle and the devices on such vehicle shall be
6 operated, equipped, constructed and adjusted to prevent unnecessary
7 or unusual noise.

8 (b) (1) Each motor vehicle operated by an internal combustion engine

9 shall be equipped, except as hereinafter provided, with a muffler or
10 mufflers designed to prevent excessive, unusual or unnecessary exhaust
11 noise. The muffler or mufflers shall be maintained by the owner in good
12 working order and shall be in use whenever the motor vehicle is
13 operated.

14 (2) No person, including a motor vehicle dealer or repairer or a
15 motorcycle dealer, shall install, and no person shall use, on a motor
16 vehicle, a muffler or mufflers lacking interior baffle plates or other
17 effective muffling devices, a gutted muffler, a muffler cutout or a
18 straight exhaust except when the motor vehicle is operated in a race,
19 contest or demonstration of speed or skill as a public exhibition
20 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 14-164a, or any mechanical device
21 which will amplify the noise emitted by the vehicle.

22 (3) No person, including a motor vehicle dealer or repairer or a
23 motorcycle dealer, shall remove all or part of any muffler on a motor
24 vehicle except to repair or replace the muffler or part for the more
25 effective prevention of noise.

26 (4) No person shall use on the exhaust system or tail pipe of a motor
27 vehicle any extension or device which will cause excessive or unusual
28 noise.

29 (c) The engine of every motor vehicle shall be equipped and adjusted
30 to prevent excessive fumes or exhaust smoke.

31 (d) All pipes carrying exhaust gases from the motor shall be
32 constructed of, and maintained with, leak-proof metal. Exhaust pipes
33 shall be directed from the muffler or mufflers toward the rear of the
34 vehicle and shall be approximately parallel with the longitudinal axis of
35 the vehicle and approximately parallel to the surface of the roadway, or
36 shall be directed from the muffler upward to a location above the cab or
37 body of the vehicle so that fumes, gases and smoke are directed away
38 from the occupants of the vehicle. Exhaust pipes on a passenger vehicle
39 shall extend to the extreme rear end of the vehicle's body, not including

40 the bumper and its attachments to the body, or shall be attached to the
41 vehicle in such a way that the exhaust pipes direct the exhaust gases to
42 either side of the vehicle ensuring that fresh ambient air is located under
43 the vehicle at all times. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt
44 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to establish
45 safety standards for passenger vehicles equipped with exhaust pipes
46 located in front of the rear axle.

47 (e) Every motor vehicle shall, when operated on a highway, be
48 equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting
49 sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than
50 two hundred feet, but no horn or other warning device shall emit an
51 unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle.

52 (f) (1) No vehicle shall be equipped with, nor shall any person use on
53 a vehicle, any siren, whistle or bell as a warning signal device, except as
54 otherwise permitted by this section.

55 (2) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with a theft alarm signal
56 device which is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an
57 ordinary warning signal.

58 (3) Any authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren,
59 whistle or bell, capable of emitting sound audible under normal
60 conditions from a distance of not less than five hundred feet and of a
61 type approved by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Such signal shall
62 not be used unless the vehicle is operated in response to an emergency
63 call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the
64 law, in which event the driver of the vehicle shall sound the signal when
65 reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the
66 approach of the vehicle.

67 (g) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
68 fined [one hundred fifty] three hundred dollars for each offense."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Sec. 31	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	14-80
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