

I live between I91 and US RT 5 about 1 mile north of the Mass. border. I am somewhat hard of hearing, and during the day when I am busy washing dishes, bakings, doing the laundry, perhaps listening to VPR I don't notice much noise from the highways. It is late at night that it sometimes seems intolerable. Part of the challenge is that my bedroom is at the rear of the house, on a hillside which is at the same elevation as the two highways.

I understand that some on the House Committee are not aware that mufflers or the modification of them can be a problem. When sleep does not come easy, the sound of a juddering truck can bring one fully awake, and leave one wondering what one can do to recover that relaxed state again as one listens to the sounds of the truck in the distance.

Similarly, a friend who lives in downtown Brattleboro and cat sits when I am away speaks of how different the noise level is between our two homes. He lives at the intersection of Flat Street and Main Street ... a spot where folks with modified mufflers are likely to pass. He doesn't notice the night noise, but the daytime peace.

So there are folks in Vermont who find the noise of motor vehicles distracting. If the legislation could make a difference, I would hope you would consider it.

Linda Hay