

Dear Megan Cannella, Hello, my name is James Hudson and I am a friend of Rick Hamilton's from Milton, with an abiding interest in the passage of some sort of legislation to limit excessive vehicular noise. He has told me that a new bill, S66, had been drafted and he urged me to contact you (and others) concerning its enactment. I am overjoyed that something is being taken up again with the lack of action on S64 last session and the defeat of our Senatorial candidate (and champion) Katherine Sims in the last election. I am a 77 year old stroke and heart attack survivor living in the heart of Glover village on Route 16. I have been here for 40 years and what was once a sleepy little NEK hamlet has become a designated "scenic byway" by the powers that be and traffic is now nonstop in the warmer months. In the past decade or so I have endured a steady and growing barrage of poorly muffled or totally unmuffled motorcycles, trucks and other conveyances that can literally endlessly dominate the experience of the day to the point of utter frustration and anger. As they come through town they back off their rigs in order to share as many decibels as possible in a total "in your face" middle finger. There was a show on PBS the other night---"The Quietest Year"---maybe you saw it. It addressed the many negativities associated with excessive noise, many of which are health related. One of the take-aways I got from the show was the observation that we can close our eyes if we choose not to see something but we can't do that with sound, no "earlids"! I mentioned the negative health effects---I take two different blood pressure meds but I'm pretty sure they have zero effect when I'm subjected to a constant ear shattering din on a sunny day in July created by an endless procession of troglodytes. We are in desperate need of some rules. Thanks for listening to me complain! Sincerely, James Hudson