

Vermont legislative comment 2/27/2025

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for addressing an environmental issue which is sometimes overlooked, motor vehicle noise pollution.

I suspect that every Vermont community has issues with loud pipes, truck traffic, Jacob's breaking, and modified exhaust systems. Some of those modified systems, many in diesel powered pickups and street machines such as cars and motorcycles, seem to have no other uses than "hey look at me."

We don't live in major metropolitan areas which were obnoxiously loud 50 years ago. In Vermont, small cities and towns that 30 plus years ago were relatively quiet, today they endure noise as a disruptive and disturbing issue. It is the same on Lake Road in Milton. In 1985 it was a relatively quiet neighborhood. Today it is not.

In my opinion, this bill as drafted is comparable with similar state laws around the nation. I believe it is well drafted and has a good chance of being adopted. Fines seem reasonable, and a noise issue forum On DMV's website is an excellent idea. So is education for law enforcement officers.

However, I estimate from public information, we have about 1,500 sworn officers in all agencies in Vermont. Many spend their days on criminal issues, and they seem to be stretched thin.

Given my experience in the military, various media companies, state employment, and as an INS/DHS official, public awareness and support are essential for any law passed by government to succeed.

If this bill passes, aside from state government responsibilities, it will need support from motor vehicle businesses, motor vehicle dealerships, and various motor vehicle sport organizations.

Reducing motor vehicle noise pollution will need a balance of regulation, enforcement, education, input from health officials, and public affairs input.

Vermont needs to address this issue for the sake of all residents in our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the noise pollution issue. I have many neighbors who agree on the issue of noise level in our neighborhood.

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