

Testimony in support of H7368: Noise Limits for Motor Vehicles

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

Date of Hearing: February 27, 2024

To Chair Craven and the honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

While the vast majority of Rhode Island drivers cares about keeping the noise of their vehicles low, there are a sizable number of drivers who don't and who stand out by making excessive noise, regardless of the time of day (or night).

The noisy fraction of the drivers often drives vehicles that have modified engines or exhaust systems designed to generate excessive noise.

Noise is a health hazard, and can also increase risk for accidents when other drivers or pedestrians get startled by sudden unexpected noise.

H7368 allows municipalities to install and operate automated noise violation detection systems to objectively monitor and detect violations of noise limits. In addition, municipalities will also be authorized to install and operate automated noise violation detection systems that measure dbC (decibel) levels to promulgate ordinances that define acceptable dbC levels.

Overall, this will contribute to reduction of vehicular noise and lead to a healthier, safer and more enjoyable environment.

I would like to suggest to also consider offering an education program, or a more explicit component of drivers' education that explains that excessive noise is a health hazard.

Please bring the bill to a vote in 2024.

Thank you very much for considering my input, and thank you to Representative DeSimone for introducing this important bill.



Dr. Hans Scholl

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