

39:3-61.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 39:3-61.1

(Headlamps-height)

LAWS OF: 1984

CHAPTER: 145

Bill No: A21

Sponsor(s): Zangari, Visotcky and Hollenbeck

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Law, Public Safety and Defense

Senate: Law, Public Safety and Defense

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly: February 27, 1984

Senate: June 28, 1984

Date of Approval: September 8, 1984

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes (Below)

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: ~~No~~ Yes

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

Sponsor's statement:

This bill provides that the mounted height of headlamps shall be not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches, which is in accordance with Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 108, a federal safety standard adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard #108:
CFR 49.571.108

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY, No. 21

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Assemblymen ZANGARI, VISOTCKY and HOLLENBECK

AN ACT to amend "An act concerning motor vehicles amending, supplementing and repealing parts of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes and supplements thereto," approved July 4, 1964 (P. L. 1964, c. 136).

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
 2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 7 of P. L. 1964, c. 136 (C. 39:3-61.1) is amended to
 2 read as follows:

3 7. Lamps and reflectors required by section 39:3-61 shall be
 4 mounted on a vehicle as follows:

5 (a) Every lamp and every reflector shall be permanently and
 6 securely mounted in a workmanlike **[maner]** *manner* on a perma-
 7 nent part of the vehicle.

8 (b) When two lamps or two reflectors of the same type are
 9 required on the front or on the rear of a vehicle, they shall be
 10 mounted at the same level and spaced as widely laterally as
 11 practicable.

12 (c) The mounted height of a lamp or reflector shall be measured
 13 from the center thereof to the level surface upon which the vehicle
 14 stands.

15 (d) Headlamps shall be so mounted that their beams are readily
 16 adjustable, both vertically and horizontally, and their aim is not
 17 readily disturbed by ordinary conditions of service. *The mounted*
 18 *height of headlamps shall be not more than 54 inches nor less than*
 19 *24 inches*, but these height requirements shall not apply to trucks*
 19A *prepared for snow-plowing*.*

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill
 is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics *thus* is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

*—Senate committee amendment adopted May 21, 1984.

20 (e) The mounted height of tail lamps shall be not more than
21 72 inches nor less than 15 inches; eye-level tail lamps may be
22 mounted outside the passenger vehicle provided their height does
23 not exceed 72 inches. Rear lamps may be mounted higher than
24 72 inches on any vehicle designed for carrying flammable liquids
25 as a cargo.

26 (f) Clearance lamps shall be mounted to indicate the extreme
27 width and height of the vehicles so far as is practicable, except
28 that on a truck tractor, they shall be mounted to indicate the
29 extreme width of the cab. On flat bed vehicles and vehicles designed
30 for carrying flammable liquids, rear clearance lamps may be located
31 on the chassis, and front clearance lamps may be located on the
32 cab of trucks or truck tractors or the vehicle's chassis, provided
33 the lamps are clearly visible from a distance of 500 feet in the
34 direction set forth therefor.

35 (g) Side-marker lamps may be mounted at optional height on
36 the side of a vehicle.

37 (h) Turn signals required on the rear of a truck tractor not
38 equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front, shall
39 be mounted on the rear in a manner to be visible to passing drivers.

40 (i) Identification lamps shall be mounted on the front and rear
41 of the vehicle as close as practicable to the vertical center line of
42 the vehicle, and shall be grouped in a horizontal row, with lamp
43 centers spaced not less than six nor more than 12 inches apart;
44 provided, however, that where the cab is not more than 42 inches
45 wide at the front roof line, a single identification lamp at the
46 center line of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the require-
47 ments for front identification lamps. No part of front identification
48 lamps or their mountings may extend below the top of the vehicle
49 windshield. Rear identification lamps on a truck, trailer, or semi-
50 trailer need not be lighted if they are obscured by another vehicle
51 towed by the truck or in the same combination of vehicles.

52 (j) The mounted height of reflectors shall be not less than
53 20 inches nor more than 60 inches. Every reflector shall be so
54 installed in a workmanlike manner as to perform its function ade-
55 quately, and to provide maximum stability and minimum likelihood
56 of damage. Any reflector otherwise properly mounted may be
57 securely installed on flexible strapping or belting provided that
58 under conditions of normal operation it reflects light in the required
59 direction.

60 (k) The director in his discretion may prescribe additional re-
61 quirements for mounting lamps or reflectors on vehicles, provided
62 they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this article.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill provides that the mounted height of headlamps shall be not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches, which is in accordance with Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 108, a federal safety standard adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

ASSEMBLY LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 21

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 6, 1984

Assembly Bill No. 21 requires the mounted height of headlamps on motor vehicles to be not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches above the road surface. The bill conforms New Jersey motor vehicle law to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard #108 adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 21
with Senate committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 21, 1984

As amended by the Senate Law, Public Safety and Defense Committee, Assembly Bill No. 21 requires the mounted height of headlamps on motor vehicles, except for trucks prepared for snow-plowing, to be not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches above the road surface.

The bill conforms New Jersey motor vehicle law to federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard #108 adopted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In addition, this bill is designed to that no custom made or reconditioned motor vehicle will have headlamps mounted at a height which would distort the vision of, or temporarily blind, other motorists on the road.

Manufacturers of new motor vehicles are required by the federal government to comply with the specifications of Motor Vehicle Safety Standard #108, and the Division of Motor Vehicles now requires all motor vehicles inspected in this State to conform to the federal standard.

S-1680 ET AL. SIGNED

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SEPTEMBER 10, 1984

The legislation, A-551, was sponsored by Assemblyman Martin Herman, D-Gloucester, and empowers the Commissioner of the Department of Health to develop standards which would have to be met before an individual would be certified to perform the advanced life support function.

The bill becomes effective in 90 days.

Other bills signed by the Governor are:

A-785, sponsored by Assemblyman Alan Karcher, D-Middlesex, to make consistent the disability retirement benefits of the State Police Retirement and Benevolent Fund and its predecessor, the State Police Retirement System.

A-1295, sponsored by Assemblyman Karl Weidel, R-Mercer, to appropriate \$1.5 million for the repair and renovation of the Trenton War Memorial Building.

A-2114, sponsored by Assemblyman Robert Littell, R-Sussex, to exempt the leasing of certain telephone equipment from the bidding requirements of the local public contracts law.

A-21, sponsored by Assemblyman Jimmy Zangari, D-Essex, to provide that the mounted height of headlights shall be not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches, bringing the State into conformance with Federal standards.

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