27:12B-18.2 to 27:12B-18.6

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(Toll Road authorities--electronic)

NJSA:

27:12B-18.2 to 27:12B-18.6

LAWS OF:

1997

CHAPTER:

59

BILL NO:

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SPONSOR(S):

Haines

DATE INTRODUCED:

February 15, 1997

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:

SENATE:

Budget; Transportation

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY:

March 24, 1997

SENATE:

March 10, 1997

DATE OF APPROVAL:

April 2, 1997

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Yes Also attached: statement with

floor amendments, adopted

6 2

11-7-96

Yes Senate Committee substitute (2R) enacted

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:

SENATE:

No

Yes

10-28-96 & 3-3-97 \$ 2-22-96

FISCAL NOTE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

See newspaper clippings--attached:

"Whitman clears way for electronic tolls," 4-3-97, Star Ledger.

KBP:pp

[Second Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED OCTOBER 28, 1996

Sponsored by Senator HAINES

1	AN ACT concerning toll collection enforcement and supplementing
2	Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.
3	
4	BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5	of New Jersey:
6	
7	1. As used in sections 1 through 5 of P.L., c. (C.)(now
8	pending before the Legislature as this bill):
9	"Authority" means the New Jersey Highway Authority established
10	by section 4 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-4).
11	"Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency,
12	association or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use
13	of a vehicle and has exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time.
14	"Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency,
15	association or organization engaged in the business of renting or
16	leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other
17	contract that provides the lessee with the exclusive use of the vehicle
18	for any period of time.
19	"Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.
20	"Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.
21	"Toll collection monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor, placed
22	in a location to work in conjunction with a toll collection facility, that
23	produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics,
24	a videotape or other recorded images, or a written record, of a
25	vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or operated in a violation of the
26	toll collection monitoring system regulations. The term shall also
27	include any other technology that identifies a vehicle by photographic,

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

 ${\bf Matter\ enclosed\ in\ superscript\ numerals\ has\ been\ adopted\ as\ follows:}$

¹ Senate floor amendments adopted November 7, 1996.

² Senate STR committee amendments adopted March 3, 1997.

1 electronic or other method.

"Toll collection monitoring system regulations" means the regulations authorized and adopted pursuant to section 2 of P.L.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) (C. that prohibit a vehicle from making use of any project except upon the payment of such tolls as may from time to time be prescribed by the authority and that further makes it a violation subject to a civil penalty for any person to refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection monitoring system as defined in this section ² [and in any regulation adopted by the authority pursuant to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) **]**².

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

2. a. The authority may, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt toll collection monitoring system regulations.

The regulations shall include a procedure for processing toll violations and for the treatment of inadvertent violations.

A person who violates the regulations shall be liable to a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 per violation. The penalty shall be enforced pursuant to "the penalty enforcement law," N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.

b. Except as provided in subsection b. of section 3 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill), an owner of a vehicle shall be jointly and severally liable for the failure of an operator of the vehicle to comply with the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The owner of a vehicle shall be liable if such vehicle was used or operated by the operator with the express or implied permission of the owner when the violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations was committed, and the evidence of the violation is obtained by ²[visual observation,]² a toll collection monitoring system ²[or any other method of identification of vehicles]². An owner of a vehicle shall not be liable if the operator of the vehicle has been identified and charged with a violation of section 18 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-18) for the same incident.

²c. A toll collection monitoring system acquired or operated by, or under contract to, the authority shall be so designed that it does not produce one or more photographs, microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded image or images of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle.²

3. a. If a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations is committed as evidenced by ²[visual observation,]² a toll collection monitoring system ²[or any other method of identification of vehicles]², the ²[authority or the]² agent of the

authority may send ¹[a notice] an advisory and payment request ¹ 1 ² within 30 days of the date of the violation² to the owner of the 2 3 vehicle by regular mail at the address of record for that owner with the 4 Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or 5 with any other motor vehicle licensing authority of another 6 jurisdiction, providing the owner with the opportunity to resolve the 7 matter prior to the issuance of a summons and complaint that charges 8 a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The ¹[notice] <u>advisory and payment request</u> shall contain sufficient 9 information to inform the owner of the nature, date, time and location 10 of the alleged violation. The ²[authority] agent² may require as part 11 12 of the ¹ [notice] advisory and payment request ¹ that the owner pay to the ²[authority or its]² agent the proper toll and a reasonable 13 administrative fee that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation ². If the 14 owner fails to pay '[to] the' required toll and fee 2 within 60 days of 15 the date the advisory and payment request was sent², the owner shall 16 be subject to liability ¹on the ²[31st] 61st² day following the date 17 ² [of the violation 1] the advisory and payment request was sent 2 for 18 19 the violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations by the 20 vehicle operator. 21

b. An owner of a vehicle who is a lessor of the vehicle used in violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the violation of the regulations if the lessor submits to the authority, in a timely manner, a copy of the rental agreement, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court having jurisdiction over the violation. If the lessor fails to provide the information in a timely manner, the lessor shall be held liable for the violation of the regulations. If the lessor provides the required information to the authority, the lessee of the vehicle on the date of the violation shall be deemed to be the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of sections 1 through 5 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the toll collection monitoring system regulations and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the regulations.

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c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations and any information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system ² [or other method of identification of vehicles]² shall be available for the exclusive use of the authority and any law enforcement official for the purposes of discharging their duties pursuant to sections 1 through 5 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the toll collection monitoring system regulations. Any such report or information shall

not be deemed a public record under P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law concerning access to public records. The certified reports and information shall not be discoverable ¹as a public record by any person, entity or governmental agency, nor shall they be '[admissible] offered ' in evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, not directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. ²However, in the event that, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection c. of section 2 of this act, a recorded image of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle is produced by the toll collection monitoring system. that image shall not be used by the authority for any purpose nor shall the image or any record or copy thereof be transmitted or communicated to any person, governmental, non-governmental or judicial or administrative entity.2

d. A complaint and summons charging a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall be on a form prescribed by the Administrative ¹[Office] <u>Director</u>¹ of the Courts ¹<u>pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey</u>¹. The authority may authorize ²<u>by regulation</u>² an employee or agent ¹<u>to be a complaining witness</u>¹ to make, sign, and ¹[issue] <u>initiate</u>¹ complaints and ¹<u>to issue</u>¹ summonses in the name of the authority ¹<u>on behalf of the State of New Jersey</u>, pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey¹. The complaints and summonses may be made on information based upon evidence obtained ²[by visual observation,] ² ¹<u>by</u> ¹ a toll collection monitoring system ²[or ¹<u>by</u> ¹ any other method of identification of vehicles] ², the toll collection monitoring system record and the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province, or motor vehicle licensing authority.

Service may be made by '[regular or certified mail or by other]' means provided by the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey '[and the service shall have the same effect as if the complaint and summons were served personally]'.

¹[The original complaint and summons and the] ²[The ¹] Except as provided in subsection c. of this section, the ² recorded images produced by a toll collection monitoring system ²[or other method used for identification of vehicles] ² shall be considered an official record kept in the ordinary course of business and shall be admissible in a proceeding for a violation of any toll collection monitoring system regulations.

e. The municipal court of the municipality wherein a toll collection monitoring system record was made ¹[, or wherein the defendant may reside according to the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province or motor vehicle licensing authority,] ¹ shall have

jurisdiction to hear violations of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. Violations shall be enforced and penalties collected pursuant to "the penalty enforcement law", N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq. A proceeding and a judgment arising therefrom shall be pursued and entered in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.2B:12-1 et seq. and the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

7 In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court 8 ¹having jurisdiction of the toll collection monitoring 9 system regulations, a court ¹ [having jurisdiction over the violation]¹ ²[may] shall² require the ²[owner] defendant² to pay the proper toll 10 and ²may require the defendant² to pay a reasonable administrative fee 11 that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation ² ¹f the authority has 12 previously sent an advisory and payment request to the defendant¹. 13 14 ¹ [Payment of any penalty or assessment imposed by a court shall be 15 made to the court or judicial officer having jurisdiction over the 16 proceeding and shall be remitted to the authority within 60 days 17 following the payment. **I** Following collection and distribution of the fees set forth in section 11 of P.L.1953, c.22 (C. 22A:3-4), any 18 ²[penalties,] ² tolls and administrative fees imposed and collected by 19 the court for a violation of the toll collection monitoring system 20 21 regulations shall be promptly remitted to the authority by the court.¹ ²The civil penalty shall be distributed pursuant to the "penalty 22 enforcement law," N.J.S. 2A:58-1 et seq.² 23

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4. Nothing in sections 1 though 5 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as limiting the power of the authority as provided in P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-1 et seq.) to proceed against an operator of a vehicle for a violation of the authority's toll collection regulations, or as prohibiting or limiting the enforcement of a violation of the motor vehicle and traffic laws as set forth in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes ²except that an operator of a vehicle charged with a violation of section 18 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-18) shall not be liable for the civil penalty provided in subsection a. of section 2 of this act for the same incident².

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5. Nothing in sections 1 through 5 of P.L., c. (C.)
(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as extending or diminishing the power of the authority to establish and assess tolls on projects of the authority.

- 6. As used in sections 6 through 10 of P.L., c. (C.)
 43 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill):
- "Authority" means the New Jersey Turnpike Authority established by section 3 of P.L.1948, c.454 (C.27:23-3).
- "Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency,

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association or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use of a vehicle and has exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time.

"Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency, association or organization engaged in the business of renting or leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other contract that provides the lessee with the exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time.

"Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

"Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

"Toll collection monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor, placed in a location to work in conjunction with a toll collection facility, that produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics, a videotape or other recorded images, or a written record, of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or operated in a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The term shall also include any other technology that identifies a vehicle by photographic, electronic or other method.

"Toll collection monitoring system regulations" means the regulations authorized and adopted pursuant to section 7 of P.L. (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) that prohibit a vehicle from making use of any project except upon the payment of such tolls as may from time to time be prescribed by the authority and that further makes it a violation subject to a civil penalty for any person to refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection monitoring system as defined in this section ² [and in any regulation adopted by the authority pursuant to section 7 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) **]**².

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

7. a. The authority may, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt toll 32 ²The regulations shall collection monitoring system regulations. 33 include a procedure for processing toll violations and for the treatment 34 of inadvertent violations.² A person who violates the regulations shall 35 be liable to a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 per 36 37

violation. The penalty shall be enforced pursuant to the "penalty

38 enforcement law," N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.

39 Except as provided in subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 40 (C.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill), an c. 41 owner of a vehicle shall be jointly and severally liable for the failure of 42 an operator of the vehicle to comply with the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The owner of a vehicle shall be liable 43

44 if such vehicle was used or operated by the operator with the express

or implied permission of the owner when the violation of the toll

collection monitoring system regulations was committed, and the 46

evidence of the violation is obtained by ²[visual observation,]² a toll collection monitoring system ²[or any other method of identification of vehicles used to commit violations]². An owner of a vehicle shall not be liable if the operator of the vehicle has been identified and charged with a violation of section ²[1 of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-6 25)] 10 of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-34)² for the same incident.

²c. A toll collection monitoring system acquired or operated by, or under contract to, the authority shall be so designed that it does not produce one or more photographs, microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded image or images of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle.²

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8. a. If a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations is committed as evidenced by ² [visual observation,]² a toll collection monitoring system ² [or any other method of identification of vehicles]², the ²[authority or the]² agent of the authority may send ¹[a notice] an advisory and payment request ¹ ²within 30 days of the date of the violation² to the owner of the vehicle by regular mail at the address of record for that owner with the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or with any other motor vehicle licensing authority of another jurisdiction, providing the owner with the opportunity to resolve the matter prior to the issuance of a summons and complaint that charges a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The ¹[notice] <u>advisory and payment request</u> ¹ shall contain sufficient information to inform the owner of the nature, date, time and location of the alleged violation. The ² [authority] agent² may require as part of the ¹ [notice] advisory and payment request ¹ that the owner pay to the ²[authority or its]² agent the proper toll and a reasonable administrative fee that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation². If the owner fails to pay ¹[to] the ¹ required toll and fee ²within 60 days of the date the advisory and payment request was sent², the owner shall be subject to liability on the 2[31st] 61st 2 day following the date ² [of the violation 1] the advisory and payment request was sent 2 for the violation of the toll ¹ [collections] collection ¹ monitoring system regulations by the vehicle operator.

b. An owner of a vehicle who is a lessor of the vehicle used in violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the violation of the regulations if the lessor submits to the authority, in a timely manner, a copy of the rental agreement, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court having jurisdiction over the violation. If the lessor fails to provide the information in a timely manner, the lessor shall be held liable for the violation of the

regulations. If the lessor provides the required information to the 1 2 authority, the lessee of the vehicle on the date of the violation shall be 3 deemed to be the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of sections 6 4 through 10 of P.L. , c. (C.)(now pending before the 5 Legislature as this bill) and the toll collection monitoring system 6 regulations and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the 7 regulations.

8 c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority 9 reporting a violation of the toll collection monitoring system 10 regulations and any information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system ²[or other method of identification of vehicles]² 11 shall be available for the exclusive use of the authority and any law 12 13 enforcement official for the purposes of discharging their duties 14 pursuant to sections 6 through 10 of P.L. 15 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the collection monitoring system regulations. Any such report or 16 information shall not be deemed a public record under P.L.1963, c.73 17 18 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law concerning access to public 19 records. The certified reports and information shall not discoverable ¹as a public record ¹ by any person, entity or 20 governmental agency, nor shall they be '[admissible] offered' in 21 22 evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, not 23 directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring system ²However, in the event that, notwithstanding the 24 regulations. provisions of subsection c. of section 7 of this act, a recorded image 25 26 of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle is 27 produced by the toll collection monitoring system, that image shall not 28 be used by the authority for any purpose nor shall the image or any 29 record or copy thereof be transmitted or communicated to any person. 30 governmental, non-governmental, or judicial or administrative entity.²

d. A complaint and summons charging a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall be on a form prescribed by the Administrative ¹[Office] <u>Director</u>¹ of the Courts ¹<u>pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey</u>¹. The authority may authorize ²<u>by regulation</u>² an employee or agent ¹<u>to be a complaining witness</u>¹ to make, sign, and ¹[issue] <u>initiate</u>¹ complaints and ¹<u>to issue</u>¹ summonses in the name of the authority ¹<u>on behalf of the State of New Jersey</u>, <u>pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey</u>. The complaints and summonses may be made on information based upon evidence obtained ²[by visual observation,] ² ¹<u>by</u> ¹ a toll collection monitoring system ²[or ¹<u>by</u> ¹ any other method of identification of vehicles] ², the toll collection monitoring system record and the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province, or motor vehicle licensing authority.

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Service may be made by ¹ [regular or certified mail or by other]¹

means provided by the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey ¹ and the service shall have the same effect as if the complaint and summons were served personally 1.

¹[The original complaint and summons and the] ²[The¹] Except as provided in subsection c. of this section, the² recorded images produced by a toll collection monitoring system ²[or other method used for identification of vehicles] shall be considered an official record kept in the ordinary course of business and shall be admissible in a proceeding for a violation of any toll collection monitoring system regulations.

e. The municipal court of the municipality wherein a toll collection monitoring system record was made ¹[, or wherein the defendant may reside according to the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province or motor vehicle licensing authority, ¹ shall have jurisdiction to hear violations of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. Violations shall be enforced and penalties collected pursuant to "the penalty enforcement law", N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq. A proceeding and a judgment arising therefrom shall be pursued and entered in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.2B:12-1 et seq. and the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court ¹having jurisdiction ¹ for a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations, a court ¹ [having jurisdiction over the violation]¹ ²[may] shall² require the ²[owner] defendant² to pay the proper toll and ²may require the defendant² to pay a reasonable administrative fee that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation² ¹if the authority has previously sent an advisory and payment request to the defendant¹. ¹[Payment of any penalty or assessment imposed by a court shall be made to the court or judicial officer having jurisdiction over the proceeding and shall be remitted to the authority within 60 days following the payment. I Following collection and distribution of the fees set forth in section 11 of P.L.1953, c.22 (C.22A:3-4), any ²[penalties,]² tolls and administrative fees imposed and collected by the court for a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall be promptly remitted to the authority by the court.1 ²The civil penalty shall be distributed pursuant to the penalty enforcement law, "N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.2

9. Nothing in sections 6 though 10 of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as limiting the power of the authority as provided in P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25 et seq.) to proceed against an operator of a vehicle for a violation of the authority's toll collection regulations, or as prohibiting or limiting the enforcement of a violation of the motor vehicle and

traffic laws as set forth in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes ²except that 2 an operator of a vehicle charged with a violation of section 10 of P.L. 3 1951, c.264 (C.27:23-34) shall not be liable for the civil penalty 4 provided in subsection a. of section 7 of this act for the same 5 incident². 6 7 10. Nothing in sections 6 through 10 of P.L., c. 8 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as 9 extending or diminishing the power of the authority to establish and 10 assess tolls on turnpike projects of the authority. 11 12 11. As used in sections 11 through 15 of P.L. (C.) 13 (now pending before the Legislature as this bill): 14 "Authority" means the South Jersey Transportation Authority 15 established by section 4 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-4). 16 "Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency, association or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use 17 18 of a vehicle and has exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time. 19 "Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency, 20 association or organization engaged in the business of renting or 21 leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other 22 contract that provides the lessee with the exclusive use of the vehicle 23 for any period of time. 24 "Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S.39:1-1. 25 "Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S.39:1-1. "Toll collection monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor, placed 26 27 in a location to work in conjunction with a toll collection facility, that 28 produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics, 29 a videotape or other recorded images, or a written record, of a 30 vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or operated in a violation of the 31 toll collection monitoring system regulations. The term shall also 32 include any other technology that identifies a vehicle by photographic, 33 electronic or other method. "Toll collection monitoring system regulations" means the 34 regulations authorized and adopted pursuant to section 12 of P.L. 35)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) 36 37 that prohibit a vehicle from making use of any project except upon the 38 payment of such tolls as may from time to time be prescribed by the 39 authority and that further makes it a violation subject to a civil penalty 40 for any person to refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection 41 monitoring system as defined in this section ² [and in any regulation 42 adopted by the authority pursuant to section 12 of P.L., 43 c. (C. 44) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill)]².

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S.39:1-1.

12. a. The authority may, in accordance with the "Administrative 1 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt toll 2 collection monitoring system regulations. ²The regulations shall 3 include a procedure for processing toll violations and for the treatment 4 of inadvertent violations.² A person who violates the regulations shall 5 be liable to a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 per 6 violation. The penalty shall be enforced pursuant to "the penalty 7 8 enforcement law," N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.

b. Except as provided in subsection b. of section 13 of P.L., c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill), an owner of a vehicle shall be jointly and severally liable for the failure of an operator of the vehicle to comply with the toll collection monitoring system regulations ² [to comply with the regulations]². The owner of a vehicle shall be liable if such vehicle was used or operated by the operator with the express or implied permission of the owner when the violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations was committed, and the evidence of the violation is obtained by ² [visual observation,]² a toll collection monitoring system ² [or any other method of identification of vehicles]². An owner of a vehicle shall not be liable if the operator of the vehicle has been identified and charged with a violation of section 21 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21) for the same incident.

²c. A toll collection monitoring system acquired or operated by, or under contract to, the authority shall be so designed that it does not produce one or more photographs, microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded image or images of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle.²

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13. a. If a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations is committed as evidenced by ² [visual observation,] ² a toll collection monitoring system ² [or any other method of identification of vehicles]2, the 2[authority or the]2 agent of the authority may send ¹[a notice] an advisory and payment request ¹ ²within 30 days of the date of the violation² to the owner of the vehicle by regular mail at the address of record for that owner with the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or with any other motor vehicle licensing authority of another jurisdiction, providing the owner with the opportunity to resolve the matter prior to the issuance of a summons and complaint that charges a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The ¹[notice] <u>advisory and payment request</u> shall contain sufficient information to inform the owner of the nature, date, time and location of the alleged violation. The ² [authority] agent² may require as part of the ¹ [notice] advisory and payment request ¹ that the owner pay to the ²[authority or its]² agent the proper toll and a reasonable

administrative fee that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation². If the owner fails to pay ¹[to] the ¹ required toll and fee ²within 60 days of the date the advisory and payment request was sent², the owner shall be subject to liability ¹on the ²[31st] 61st² day following the date ²[of the violation ¹] the advisory and payment request was sent² for the violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations by the vehicle ¹[operated] operator ¹.

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b. An owner of a vehicle who is a lessor of the vehicle used in violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the violation of the regulations if the lessor submits to the authority, in a timely manner, a copy of the rental agreement, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court having jurisdiction over the violation. If the lessor fails to provide the information in a timely manner, the lessor shall be held liable for the violation of the regulations. If the lessor provides the required information to the authority, the lessee of the vehicle on the date of the violation shall be deemed to be the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of sections 11 , c. (C. through 15 of P.L.)(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the toll collection monitoring system regulations and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the regulations.

24 c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority 25 reporting a violation of the toll collection monitoring system 26 regulations and any information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system ²[or other method of identification of vehicles]² 27 shall be available for the exclusive use of the authority and any law 28 29 enforcement official for the purposes of discharging their duties 30 pursuant to sections 11 through 15 of P.L. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) and the 31 toll 32 collection monitoring system regulations. Any such report or 33 information shall not be deemed a public record under P.L.1963, c.73 34 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law concerning access to public 35 records. The certified reports and information shall not discoverable ¹as a public record ¹ by any person, entity or 36 37 governmental agency, nor shall they be '[admissible] offered' in 38 evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, not 39 directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring system ²However, in the event that, notwithstanding the 40 regulations. provisions of subsection c. of section 12 of this act, a recorded image 41 42 of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle is produced by the toll collection monitoring system, that image shall not 43 44 be used by the authority for any purpose nor shall the image or any record or copy thereof be transmitted or communicated to any person, 45 46 governmental, non-governmental or judicial or administrative entity.²

d. A complaint and summons charging a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations shall be on a form prescribed by the Administrative ¹[Office] <u>Director</u> of the Courts ¹pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey¹. The authority may authorize ²by regulation² an employee or agent ¹to be <u>a complaining witness</u>¹ to make, sign, and ¹ [issue] <u>initiate</u>¹ complaints and ¹to issue ¹ summonses in the name of the authority ¹on behalf of the State of New Jersey, pursuant to the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey¹. The complaints and summonses may be made on information based upon evidence obtained ²[by visual observation, $\int_{0}^{2} b y^{1}$ a toll collection monitoring system $\int_{0}^{2} b y^{1}$ any other method of identification of vehicles]2, the toll collection monitoring system record and the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province, or motor vehicle licensing authority.

Service may be made by ¹ [regular or certified mail or by other] ¹ means provided by the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey ¹ [and the service shall have the same effect as if the complaint and summons were served personally] ¹.

¹[The original complaint and summons and the] ²[The¹] Except as provided in subsection c. of this section, the² recorded images produced by a toll collection monitoring system ²[or other method used for identification of vehicles] shall be considered an official record kept in the ordinary course of business and shall be admissible in a proceeding for a violation of any toll collection monitoring system regulations.

e. The municipal court of the municipality wherein a toll collection monitoring system record was made ¹[, or wherein the defendant may reside according to the records of the Division of Motor Vehicles in the Department of Transportation or of any other state, province or motor vehicle licensing authority,] ¹ shall have jurisdiction to hear violations of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. Violations shall be enforced and penalties collected pursuant to "the penalty enforcement law", N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq. A proceeding and a judgment arising therefrom shall be pursued and entered in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.2B:12-1 et seq. and the Rules Governing the Courts of the State of New Jersey.

In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court ¹having jurisdiction ¹ for a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations, a court ¹ [having jurisdiction over the violation]¹ ²[may] shall² require the ²[owner] defendant² to pay the proper toll and ²may require the defendant² to pay a reasonable administrative fee that shall not exceed \$25 ²per violation² ¹if the authority has previously sent an advisory and payment request to the defendant¹. ¹[Payment of any penalty or assessment imposed by a court shall be

[2R] SCS for S801

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1	made to the court or judicial officer having jurisdiction over the
2	proceeding and shall be remitted to the authority within 60 days
3	following the payment.] Following collection and distribution of the
4	fees set forth in section 11 of P.L.1953, c.22 (C.22A:3-4), any
5	² [penalties,] ² tolls and administrative fees imposed and collected by
6	the court for a violation of the toll collection monitoring system
7	regulations shall be promptly remitted to the authority by the court.
8	² The civil penalty shall be distributed pursuant to the "penalty
9	enforcement law," N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq. ²
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11	14. Nothing in sections 11 though 15 of P.L., c. (C.)
12	(now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as
13	limiting the power of the authority as provided in P.L.1991, c.252
14	(C.27:25A-1 et seq.) to proceed against an operator of a vehicle for
15	a violation of the authority's toll collection regulations, or as
16	prohibiting or limiting the enforcement of a violation of the motor

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same incident².

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15. Nothing in sections 11 through 15 of P.L. , c. (C.) (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed as extending or diminishing the power of the authority to establish and assess tolls on expressway projects of the authority.

vehicle and traffic laws as set forth in Title 39 of the Revised Statutes ² except that an operator of a vehicle charged with a violation of

section 21 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21) shall not be liable for the

civil penalty provided in subsection a. of section 12 of this act for the

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16. This act shall take effect immediately.

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Clarifies law concerning electronic collection of tolls by State toll roadauthorities.

SENATE, No. 801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 15, 1996

By Senator HAINES

1	AN ACT concerning toll collection enforcement and supplementing
2	Title 27 of the Revised Statutes.
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4	BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5	of New Jersey:
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7	1. As used in sections 2 through 5 of this act:
8	"Authority" means the New Jersey Highway Authority established
9	by section 4 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-4).
10	"Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency
11	or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use of one or
12	more vehicles and has exclusive use thereof for any period of time.
13	"Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency,
14	association or organization engaged in the business of renting or
15	leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other
16	agreement which provides that the lessee has exclusive use of the
17	vehicle for any period of time.
18	"Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.
19	"Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.
20	"Photo-monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor installed to work
21	in conjunction with a toll collection facility which automatically
22	produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics,
23	a videotape or other recorded images of each vehicle at the time the
24	vehicle is used in violation of the toll collection provisions of the
25	authority.
26	"Toll collection regulations" means the provisions of section 18 of
27	P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-18) and specifically that paragraph thereof
28	which provides that no vehicle shall be permitted to make use of any
29	project except upon the payment of such tolls as may from time to
30	time be prescribed by the authority and which further makes it
31	unlawful for any person to refuse to pay, or to evade, or to attempt to
32	evade the payment of such tolls, and any regulation adopted by the
33	authority under the provisions of section 18 of P.L.1952, c.16
34	(C.27:12B-18) regarding the payment of tolls.

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2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and in accordance

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

with the provisions of section 3 of this act, an owner of a vehicle may be held liable for failure of an operator thereof to comply with the toll collection regulations of the authority. The owner of a vehicle shall be liable pursuant to this section if such vehicle was used or operated with the permission of the owner, express or implied, in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority, and such violation is evidenced by information obtained from a photo-monitoring system; provided, however, that no owner of a vehicle shall be liable where the operator of such vehicle has been convicted of a violation of these toll collection regulations for the same incident.

- 3. a. The liability set forth in section 2 of this act shall be imposed upon an owner for a violation by an operator of the toll collection regulations of the authority in the same manner as a violation of paragraph (a) of section 18 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-18) and any regulation adopted by the authority under the provisions of that section regarding the payment of tolls and the punishment for such violation shall be as set forth in paragraph (l) of section 18 of P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-18(l)).
- b. An owner who is a lessor of a vehicle operated in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the violation of the toll collection regulations if the lessor submits a copy of the rental, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court or other entity having jurisdiction over the violation in a timely manner. Failure to provide such information in a timely manner shall render the lessor liable for the penalty prescribed by this section. Where the lessor complies with the provisions of this subsection, the lessee of such vehicle on the date of the violation shall be deemed the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of this section and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority.
- c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation of the toll collection regulations and any information obtained from a photo-monitoring system shall be deemed records kept in the ordinary course of business of the authority and shall, when relevant, be made available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding concerning a violation of the toll collection regulations, but shall not be deemed public records for the purpose of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law of access to public records.

4. Nothing in this act shall be construed as limiting the power of the authority to proceed against an owner or operator of a vehicle for violation of its toll collection regulations as provided in P.L.1952, c.16 (C.27:12B-1 et seq.).

5. Nothing in this act shall be construed as extending or diminishing the authority of the authority to establish and assess tolls on projects of the authority.

- 6. As used in sections 7 through 10 of this act:
- "Authority" means the New Jersey Turnpike Authority established by section 3 of P.L.1948, c.454 (C.27:23-3).

"Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use of one or more vehicles and has exclusive use thereof for any period of time.

"Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency, association or organization engaged in the business of renting or leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other agreement which provides that the lessee has exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time.

"Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

"Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

"Photo-monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor installed to work in conjunction with a toll collection facility which automatically produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics, a videotape or other recorded images of each vehicle at the time the vehicle is used in violation of the toll collection provisions of the authority.

"Toll collection regulations" means the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25) which provides that no vehicle shall be permitted to make use of any turnpike project or part thereof except upon the payment of such tolls, if any, as may from time to time be prescribed by the authority and which further makes it unlawful for any person to refuse to pay, or to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such tolls, and any regulation adopted by the authority under the provisions of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25 et seq.) regarding the payment of tolls.

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of this act, an owner of a vehicle may be held liable for failure of an operator thereof to comply with the toll collection regulations of the authority. The owner of a vehicle shall be liable pursuant to this section if such vehicle was used or operated with the permission of the owner, express or implied, in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority, and such violation is evidenced by information obtained from a photo-monitoring system; provided, however, that no owner of a vehicle shall be liable where the operator of such vehicle has been convicted of a violation of these toll collection regulations for the same incident.

- 8. a. The liability set forth in section 7 of this act shall be imposed upon an owner for a violation by an operator of the toll collection regulations of the authority in the same manner as a violation of 4 section 1 of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25) and any regulation adopted 5 by the authority under the provisions of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25 et seq.) regarding the payment of tolls and the punishment for such violation shall be as set forth in section 10 of P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-34).
 - b. An owner who is a lessor of a vehicle operated in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the violation of the toll collection regulations if the lessor submits a copy of the rental, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court or other entity having jurisdiction over the violation in a timely manner. Failure to provide such information in a timely manner shall render the lessor liable for the penalty prescribed by this section. Where the lessor complies with the provisions of this subsection, the lessee of such vehicle on the date of the violation shall be deemed the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of this section and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority.
 - c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation of the toll collection regulations and any information obtained from a photo-monitoring system shall be deemed records kept in the ordinary course of business of the authority and shall, when relevant, be made available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding concerning a violation of the toll collection regulations, but shall not be deemed public records for the purpose of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law of access to public records.

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> 9. Nothing in this act shall be construed as limiting the power of the authority to proceed against an owner or operator of a vehicle for violation of its toll collection regulations as provided in P.L.1951, c.264 (C.27:23-25 et seq.).

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Nothing in this act shall be construed as extending or diminishing the authority of the authority to establish and assess tolls on projects of the authority.

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- 11. As used in sections 12 through 15 of this act:
- 42 "Authority" means the South Jersey Transportation Authority 43 established by section 4 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-4).
- 44 "Lessee" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency 45 or organization that rents, leases or contracts for the use of one or 46 more vehicles and has exclusive use thereof for any period of time.

"Lessor" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, agency, association or organization engaged in the business of renting or leasing vehicles to any lessee under a rental agreement, lease or other agreement which provides that the lessee has exclusive use of the vehicle for any period of time.

"Operator" means the term "operator" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

"Owner" means the term "owner" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

"Photo-monitoring system" means a vehicle sensor installed to work in conjunction with a toll collection facility which automatically produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographics, a videotape or other recorded images of each vehicle at the time the vehicle is used in violation of the toll collection provisions of the authority.

"Toll collection regulations" means the provisions of section 21 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21) and specifically that subsection thereof which provides that no vehicle shall be permitted to make use of any expressway project except upon the payment of such tolls as may from time to time be prescribed by the authority and which further makes it unlawful for any person to refuse to pay, or to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of such tolls, and any regulation adopted by the authority under the provisions of section 21 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21) regarding the payment of tolls.

"Vehicle" means the term "vehicle" as defined in R.S. 39:1-1.

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12. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of this act, an owner of a vehicle may be held liable for failure of an operator thereof to comply with the toll collection regulations of the authority. The owner of a vehicle shall be liable pursuant to this section if such vehicle was used or operated with the permission of the owner, express or implied, in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority, and such violation is evidenced by information obtained from a photo-monitoring system; provided, however, that no owner of a vehicle shall be liable where the operator of such vehicle has been convicted of a violation of these toll collection regulations for the same incident.

- 37 13. a. The liability set forth in section 12 of this act shall be 38 imposed upon an owner for a violation by an operator of the toll collection regulations of the authority in the same manner as a 39 40 violation of subsection a. of section 21 of P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21a.) any regulation adopted by the authority under the provisions of 41 42 that section regarding the payment of tolls and the punishment for such violation shall be as set forth in subsection 1. of section 21 of 43 44 P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-21(1)).
- b. An owner who is a lessor of a vehicle operated in violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority shall not be liable for the

violation of the toll collection regulations if the lessor submits a copy of the rental, lease or other contract document covering that vehicle on the date of the violation, with the name and address of the lessee clearly legible to the authority and to the court or other entity having jurisdiction over the violation in a timely manner. Failure to provide such information in a timely manner shall render the lessor liable for the penalty prescribed by this section. Where the lessor complies with the provisions of this subsection, the lessee of such vehicle on the date of the violation shall be deemed the owner of the vehicle for the purposes of this section and shall be subject to liability for the violation of the toll collection regulations of the authority.

c. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation of the toll collection regulations and any information obtained from a photo-monitoring system shall be deemed records kept in the ordinary course of business of the authority and shall, when relevant, be made available for inspection and admission into evidence in a proceeding concerning a violation of the toll collection regulations, but shall not be deemed public records for the purpose of P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or the common law of access to public records.

14. Nothing in this act shall be construed as limiting the power of the authority to proceed against an owner or operator of a vehicle for violation of its toll collection regulations as provided in P.L.1991, c.252 (C.27:25A-1 et seq.).

15. Nothing in this act shall be construed as extending or diminishing the authority of the authority to establish and assess tolls on projects of the authority.

16. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The electronic collection of tolls on highways and bridges is in the process of being implemented in the State of New Jersey and New York by the inauguration of the "E-Z-pass system." This system permits a driver to pass through existing toll barriers without stopping for the purpose of manually depositing currency, coins or tokens. This system will permit tolls to be paid automatically by means of automated electronic identification of a vehicle at a toll booth and the debiting of a vehicle account. This allows tolls to be paid automatically while vehicles are in motion, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing delays and queing.

This bill, which is modeled on S-428 of 1996 concerning the Port

1	of New York and New Jersey, clarifies existing laws of the State's
2	three toll road authorities - the New Jersey Highway Authority, the
3	New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation
4	Authority - with regard to the liability of the owners of motor vehicles
5	for toll collection violations and the status and use of photo-
6	monitoring evidence in order to permit the toll road authorities to
7	expediently implement electronic toll collection technology.
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12	Clarifies law concerning electronic collection of tolls by State toll road
13	authorities.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 801

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 22, 1996

The Senate Transportation Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 801 with committee amendments.

The electronic collection of tolls on highways and bridges is in the process of being implemented in the State of New Jersey and New York by the inauguration of the "E-Z-pass system." This system permits a driver to pass through existing toll barriers without stopping for the purpose of manually depositing currency, coins or tokens. This system will permit tolls to be paid automatically by means of automated electronic identification of a vehicle at a toll booth and the debiting of a vehicle account. This allows tolls to be paid automatically while vehicles are in motion, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing delays and queing.

This amended bill, which is modeled in part on S-428 of 1996 concerning the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, clarifies existing laws of the State's three toll road authorities - the New Jersey Highway Authority, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation Authority - with regard to the liability of the owners of motor vehicles for toll collection violations and the status and use of photo-monitoring and other evidence in order to permit the toll road authorities to expediently implement electronic toll collection technology.

The committee approved amendments to clarify that the toll road authority may use state of the art technology, including but not limited to, automatic vehicle identification technology, to aid in the collection of tolls and enforcement of toll violations. This will enable the authorities to alter the system as improved technology becomes available without requiring future legislative changes. The amendments also permit the authorities to continue the use of visual observation and other generally accepted enforcement techniques to detect violations of the toll collection regulations and provide for the issuance of a notice to the owner by mail and a mechanism to allow an owner to pay the toll (plus a reasonable administrative fee) before the authorities' standard penalty collection procedures are utilized.

In addition, the amendments provide that the photo-monitoring

system records are for the exclusive use of the authorities in the discharge of their duties under the act in order to protect the privacy of these records and to prevent unwarranted requests for inspection. Finally, the amendments add a provision that nothing in this act shall be construed as prohibiting a law enforcement officer from issuing a citation for a violation of the motor vehicle and traffic laws as set forth in Title 39.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 28, 1996

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 801.

The substitute authorizes the State's three toll road authorities - the New Jersey Highway Authority, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation Authority - to promulgate regulations for the collection of tolls and the enforcement of toll payments on highways upon which the authorities have implemented electronic toll collection technology. The electronic collection of tolls on highways and bridges is in the process of being implemented in this State and New York by the inauguration of the "E-Z-pass system." This system permits a driver to pass through existing toll barriers without stopping for the purpose of manually depositing currency, coins or tokens. This system will permit tolls to be paid automatically by means of automated electronic identification of a vehicle at a toll booth and the debiting of a vehicle account. This allows tolls to be paid automatically while vehicles are in motion, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing delays and lines.

This bill recognizes that a toll road authority may use state of the art technology to aid enforcement of toll collections. In addition, the bill permits the authorities to continue the use of visual observation and other method of vehicle identification to detect toll violators.

The bill makes the owner of a vehicle used in the violation jointly and severally liable with the operator for failure to pay a toll, with certain exceptions. The person liable will be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$50 but not more than \$200. The bill provides for the issuance of a written notice to the owner of a vehicle used in a violation requiring the payment of the tolls, and an administrative fee not to exceed \$25, prior to the issuance of a summons and complaint for failure to pay. The bill provides procedures to be followed for the issuance of a complaint and summon and for judicial enforcement for the payment of tolls, penalties and administrative fees.

Finally, the bill provides that the toll collection monitoring system records will not be public records and will be available only for the exclusive use of the authority or law enforcement officials for the purposes of toll collections.

FISCAL IMPACT

This bill has not been certified as requiring a fiscal note since it will not have an impact on State expenditures or revenues.

The bill affects the toll collection efforts of the New Jersey Highway Authority, New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation Authority.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 801

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 3, 1997

The Senate Transportation Committee favorably reports Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 801 (1R) with committee amendments.

This amended bill authorizes the State's three toll road authorities - the New Jersey Highway Authority, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and the South Jersey Transportation Authority - to adopt toll collection monitoring system regulations. The electronic collection of tolls on highways and bridges is in the process of being implemented in this State and New York by the inauguration of the "E-Z-pass system." This system permits a driver to pass through existing toll barriers without stopping for the purpose of manually depositing currency, coins or tokens. This system will permit tolls to be paid automatically by means of automated electronic identification of a vehicle at a toll booth and the debiting of a vehicle account. This allows tolls to be paid automatically while vehicles are in motion, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing delays and lines.

The toll collection monitoring system regulations which the authorities are authorized to adopt make it a violation subject to a civil penalty for any person to refuse to pay, to evade, or to attempt to evade the payment of tolls, if the violation is recorded by a toll collection monitoring system. A toll collection monitoring system is defined as a vehicle sensor, placed in a location to work in conjunction with a toll facility, that produces one or more photographs, one or more microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded images, or a written record, of a vehicle at the time the vehicle is used or operated in a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. The term also includes any other technology that identifies a vehicle by photographic, electronic or other method. A toll collection monitoring system acquired or operated by, or under contract to, the authorities shall be so designed that it does not produce one or more photographs,

microphotographs, a videotape or other recorded image or images of the face of the operator or any passenger in a motor vehicle.

The regulations, which are to provide for a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 per violation, are to include a procedure for processing toll violations and for the treatment of inadvertent violations. With certain exceptions, an owner of a vehicle shall be jointly and severally liable for the failure of an operator of a vehicle to comply with the toll collection monitoring system regulations.

If a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations is committed as evidenced by a toll collection monitoring system, the agent of the authorities may send an advisory and payment request within 30 days of the date of violation to the owner of the vehicle. If the owner fails to pay the required toll and administrative fee not to exceed \$25 per violation within 60 days of the date the request was sent, the owner shall be subject to liability on the 61st day. A certified report of an employee or agent of the authority reporting a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations and information obtained from a toll collection monitoring system shall not be discoverable as a public record by any person, entity or government agency nor shall they be offered in evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, not directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations. If, however, a recorded image of the face of the operator or passenger is produced by the toll collection monitoring system, the image shall not be used by the authority for any purpose nor shall the image or any record or copy thereof be transmitted or communicated to any person, governmental, non-governmental or judicial or administrative entity.

In addition to the civil penalty that may be assessed by a court for violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations, the court shall require the defendant to pay the proper toll and may require the defendant to pay a reasonable administrative fee not to exceed \$25 per violation. The tolls and administrative fees shall be remitted to the authority by the court. The civil penalty is to be distributed pursuant to "the penalty enforcement law," N.J.S.2A:58-1 et seq.

The existing provisions of law concerning the authorities' toll collection regulations would continue to apply; however, an operator of a vehicle charged with the violation of these regulations shall not be liable for the civil penalty provided in this bill for the same incident.

The committee amended this bill to provide that a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations is to be evidenced by the toll collection monitoring system not by visual identification or other method of identification of vehicles, and that the monitoring system shall be so designed that it does not produce a recorded image of the face of the operator or any passenger of a motor vehicle. The committee also adopted amendments dealing with the time for payment of the administrative fee, the date on which the violation is subject to liability, and the prohibition on the use of the recorded image of the face of an operator or passenger of a motor vehicle, the discretion of

the court to impose the administrative fee, and the distribution of the toll, fees and fines by the court. Finally, the amendments provide that an operator may not be charged with a violation of both the current toll collection regulations and the toll collection monitoring system regulations provided for in the bill for the same incident.

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE, No. 801

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed By Senator HAINES)

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 7, 1996

These amendments make technical changes to the bill suggested by the Administrative Office of the Courts to facilitate enforcement action by the toll road authorities and the courts, dealing with notice, the date of liability, the person authorized to issue summons and complaints, secondary jurisdiction of the municipal courts, and the collection of the toll, fee, penalty and court costs. In addition the amendments change the confidentiality requirements of the bill to the effect that the certified reports and information concerning a toll violation shall not be discoverable as a public record nor shall they be offered in evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, not directly related to a violation of the toll collection monitoring system regulations.