

39:4-67 et seq

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 39:4-67 et seq (Vehicles -- traffic regulations)

LAWS OF: 1956 CHAPTER: 107

Bill No: S177

Sponsor(s): Harper

Date Introduced: April 2, 1956

Committee: Assembly: Highways, Transportation and Public Utilities

Senate: Revision and Amendment of Laws

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: May 28, 1956

Senate: May 3, 1956

Date of Approval: June 19, 1956

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly No

Senate No

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: Yes

Hearings: No

Report, referred to in sponsor's statement:

974.90 New Jersey. Governor's Highway Safety Conference.  
S128 Blueprint for action! Sept. 22, 1954.  
1954a

APPROVED 6/19/56

**SENATE, No. 177**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 2, 1956

By Mr. HARPER

Referred to Committee on Highways, Transportation and Public Utilities

An Act concerning traffic regulations and amending sections 39:4-67, 39:4-126, 39:4-140, 39:4-141, 39:4-144 of the Revised Statutes, supplementing chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, and amending "An act concerning highway and traffic signs, amending section 39:4-141, supplementing chapter 4 of Title 39, and repealing article 18 of chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes," approved August 4, 1941 (P. L. 1941, c. 345).

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

1 1. Section 39:4-67 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

2 39:4-67. No vehicle or street car shall be permitted by the owner or driver  
3 thereof to so occupy a street as to interfere with or interrupt the passage  
4 of other street cars or vehicles, nor shall the driver of a vehicle or street car  
5 drive such vehicle or street car into an intersection if preceding traffic pre-  
6 vents immediate clearance of the intersection.

1 2. Section 39:4-126 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as fol-  
2 lows:

3 39:4-126. No person shall turn a vehicle at an intersection unless the  
4 vehicle is in proper position upon the roadway as required in section 39:4-123,  
5 or turn a vehicle to enter a private road or driveway or otherwise turn a  
6 vehicle from a direct course or move right or left upon a roadway, or start

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

7 or back a vehicle unless and until such movement can be made with safety.  
8 No person shall so turn any vehicle without giving an appropriate signal in  
9 the manner hereinafter provided in the event any other traffic may be affected  
10 by such movement.

11 A signal of intention to turn right or left when required shall be given  
12 continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled by the vehicle  
13 before turning.

14 No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle without  
15 first giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided herein to the  
16 driver of any vehicle immediately to the rear.

17 The signal herein required shall be given either by means of the hand  
18 and arm in the manner herein specified, or by an approved mechanical or  
19 electrical signal device, except that when a vehicle is so constructed or loaded  
20 as to prevent the hand and arm signal from being visible, both to front and  
21 rear, the signal shall be given by a device of a type which has been approved  
22 by the division.

23 When the signal is given by means of the hand and arm, the driver shall  
24 indicate his intention to stop or turn by extending the hand and arm from  
25 and beyond the left side of the vehicle in the following manner and such sig-  
26 nals shall indicate as follows:

27 [For a right turn, a sweeping motion shall be made from the rear to the  
28 front, to indicate to drivers of vehicles behind that they may pass to the left.

29 For a left turn, the index finger shall be pointed to the left, to indicate  
30 to drivers of vehicles behind that he intends to turn in that direction.

31 When stopping or slowing up, the arm and hand shall be kept in a steady  
32 position, with palm to the rear.]

33 (a) *Left turn.—Hand and arm extended horizontally.*

34 (b) *Right turn.—Hand and arm extended upward.*

35 (c) *Stop or decrease speed.—Hand and arm extended downward.*

1 3. Section 39:4-140 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as fol-  
2 lows:

3 39:4-140. The State Highway Commissioner with reference to State high-  
4 ways may by regulation and the local authorities with reference to any high-  
5 way under their jurisdiction may by ordinance or resolution, subject to the  
6 approval of the director, designate main traveled or major highways which  
7 shall be known as "through streets." Only such highways shall be marked at  
8 the entrances thereto from intersecting highways by "stop" signs [.] or  
9 "yield right of way" signs.

10 The director on his own motion may designate such "through streets"  
11 and upon the designation shall give notice thereof to the board or body charged  
12 with the maintenance of the "through street." The board or body shall there-  
13 upon comply with section 39:4-141 of this Title. The director may by ap-  
14 propriate order withdraw the designation of "through streets" and there-  
15 after cause the removal of "stop" signs or "yield right of way" signs in-  
16 dicating the "through street."

1 4. Section 39:4-141 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as fol-  
2 lows:

3 39:4-141. The official, board or body charged with the maintenance of a  
4 highway or section thereof designated as a "through" street as provided in  
5 section 39:4-140 of this Title shall place "stop" signs or "yield right of way"  
6 signs, as in the designation provided, on the near right side of each highway  
7 intersecting the through street.

1 5. Section 39:4-144 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as fol-  
2 lows:

3 39:4-144. No driver of a vehicle or street car shall enter upon or cross a  
4 through street so designated and marked with a "stop" sign unless he has first  
5 brought his vehicle or street car to a complete stop at a point within 5 feet  
6 of the nearest crosswalk or stop line marked upon the pavement at the  
7 nearest side of the through street [.] and shall proceed only after yielding  
8 the right of way to all traffic on the "through" street which is so close as to

9 constitute an immediate hazard. No driver of a vehicle or street car shall  
 10 enter upon or cross a through street so designated and marked with a "yield  
 11 right of way" sign without first slowing to a reasonable speed for existing  
 12 conditions and visibility, stopping if necessary, and the driver shall yield  
 13 the right of way to all traffic on the "through" street which is so close as to  
 14 constitute an immediate hazard; unless, in either case, he is otherwise di-  
 15 rected to proceed by a traffic or police officer or traffic control signal, or as  
 16 provided in section 39:4-145 of this Title.

1 6. Section 8 of chapter 345 of the laws of 1941 is amended to read as fol-  
 2 lows:

3 8. All traffic signs shall be of the shape and color indicated in the table  
 4 below. All corners shall be rounded and all signs shall have a border.

Type	Shape	Color of Background	Color of Message
5 Regulatory 6 Movement			
7 Stop	Octagon	[Yellow] Red	[Black] White
8 Yield Right of 9 Way	Equilateral triangle with 10 1 point downward	Yellow	Black
11 Speed	Rectangle with longer di- 12 mension vertical	White	Black
13 Turning	Rectangle with longer di- 14 mension vertical	White	Black
15 Signal	Rectangle with longer di- 16 mension vertical	White	Black
17 One-way	Horizontal rectangle with 18 arrow on it	White	Black
19 Alignment	Rectangle with longer di- 20 mension vertical	White	Black
21 Exclusion	Rectangle with longer di- 22 mension vertical	White	Black

23	<b>Stopping and</b>			
24	<b>Standing</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
25		mension vertical	White	Red
<b>26 Parking</b>				
27	<b>Prohibition</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
28		mension vertical	White	Red
29	<b>Restriction</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
30		mension vertical	White	Green
31	<b>Pedestrian</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
32		mension vertical	White	Black
33	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
34		mension vertical	White	Black
<b>35 Warning</b>				
36	<b>Warning</b>	Diamond	Yellow	Black
37	<b>Construction</b>			
38	<b>Warning</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
39		mension horizontal	White	Black
<b>40 Railroad</b>				
41	<b>Advance</b>	Circle	Yellow	Black
42	<b>Crossing</b>	Cross-buck, reflectorized	White	Black
<b>43 Guide</b>				
<b>44 Route marker</b>				
45	<b>U. S.</b>	Shield	White	Black
46	<b>State</b>	Circle	White	Black
47	<b>County and</b>			
48	<b>Municipal</b>	Square	White	Black
49	<b>Auxiliary signs</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
50		mension horizontal	White	Black
51	<b>Destination</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
52		mension horizontal	White	Black
53	<b>Location</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
54		mension horizontal	White	Black
55	<b>Information</b>	Rectangle with longer di-		
56		mension horizontal	White	Black

1 7. Section 10 of chapter 345 of the laws of 1941 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 10. The design of all traffic signs shall conform to and have the mini-  
4 mum dimensions of the specifications adopted by the Director of the Division  
5 of Motor Vehicles, except as otherwise approved by the director. Where con-  
6 ditions require greater visibility necessitating a larger sign, standard shapes  
7 and colors shall be used, and standard proportions shall be retained, so far  
8 as practicable.

9 *This is not to be deemed to prohibit the erection of enlarged bridge type*  
10 *signs or narrow longitudinal type signs suspended from mast arms, over the*  
11 *roadway.*

1 8. Section 17 of chapter 345 of the laws of 1941 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 17. The design and location of standard STOP signs shall be as follows:

4 (a) Shape—Octagon, with 2 sides vertical.

5 (b) Colors—~~Yellow~~ Red background, ~~black~~ white letters and  
6 border; ~~or black horizontal panel on yellow background with white or yellow~~  
7 letters; ~~or white horizontal panel of reflecting coating on yellow background~~  
8 with black letters;] all "stop" signs shall be illuminated or reflectorized.

9 *Stop signs having yellow background and black letters are permissible*  
10 *for retention until replaced or repainted but in no event shall a yellow back-*  
11 *ground black letter stop sign be retained beyond December 31, 1959.*

12 (c) Dimensions—30 by 30 inches; 24 by 24 inches may be used in urban  
13 areas where speeds are low, traffic is light and mounting space is limited.

14 (d) ~~Main~~ Message—STOP, located in center.

15 ~~(e)~~ Secondary Message—May be used, located above and below word  
16 STOP.]

17 ~~(f)~~ (e) Location—STOP signs at highway intersections shall be lo-  
18 cated at the point where the vehicle is to stop as provided in section 39:4-144  
19 of the Revised Statutes or as near thereto as possible, and as a general rule  
20 not more than 15 feet from that point.

21 *The design and location of standard YIELD RIGHT OF WAY signs*  
22 *shall be as follows:*

- 23 (a) *Shape—Equilateral triangle with 1 point downward.*
- 24 (b) *Colors—Yellow background with black letters and border; all “yield*  
25 *right of way” signs shall be illuminated or reflectorized.*
- 26 (c) *Dimensions—All 3 sides shall be a minimum of 30 inches in length.*
- 27 (d) *Message—YIELD RIGHT OF WAY.*
- 28 (e) *Location—YIELD RIGHT OF WAY signs shall be located and*  
29 *erected in the same manner as stop signs.*

1 9. Section 18 of chapter 345 of the laws of 1941 is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 18. The design and location of other regulatory signs shall be as follows:

- 4 (a) *Shape—Rectangular with longer dimension vertical.*
- 5 (b) *Colors—White background, black letters and border, except on pro-*  
6 *hibited parking signs which shall have white background, red letters and bor-*  
7 *der, and limited parking signs which shall have white background, green let-*  
8 *ters and border.*

9 (c) *Location—Regulatory signs herein included shall be located where*  
10 *the legal requirement is effective and in the case of prohibited and limited*  
11 *parking, signs shall be placed at the first and last point where the legal re-*  
12 *quirement is effective and at intervals not greater than 250 feet.*

13 This subsection shall not apply to the spacing of prohibited or limited  
14 parking signs which apply only between the hours of sunset and sunrise.

15 (d) *Messages and dimensions—Standard regulatory signs shall have 1*  
16 *of the messages in the following table, with minimum dimensions to conform*  
17 *to the specifications adopted by the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles.*

Speed Regulations

- 17 Reduce Speed
- 18 Speed Limit .....

**Turn Regulations**

- 19 **No Turns**
- 20 **No Right Turn**
- 21 **No Left Turn**
- 22 **No "U" Turn**

**Signal Regulations**

- 23 **Signal [(s)] Set For .....M. P. H.**

**Alignment Regulations**

- 24 **[No Passing]**
- 25 **[End—No Passing Zone]**
- 26 ***Do Not Pass***
- 27 ***Pass With Care***
- 28 **Keep Right**
- 29 **Keep Right—Except to Pass**
- 30 **Keep in Single Line**
- 31 **Form.....Lines**

**Exclusion Regulations**

- 32 **Do Not Enter**
- 33 **Commercial Vehicles Excluded**
- 34 **Trucks Over..... Tons Excluded**
- 35 **No Thoroughfare**
- 36 **No Stopping or Standing**
- 37 **No Stopping on Pavement**
- 38 ***Do Not Block Side Road***

**Parking Prohibitions**

- 39 **No Parking Any Time**
- 40 **No Parking.....A. M. to.....P. M.**
- 41 **No Parking Except Saturday and Sunday**
- 42 **No Parking on Pavement**

- 43 No Parking This Side
- 44 No Parking Here to Corner
- 45 No Parking Street Car Stop
- 46 No Parking Safety Zone
- 47 No Parking Theatre Exit
- 48 No Parking Passenger Zone
- 49 No Parking Loading Zone
- 50 No Parking Bus Stop
- 51 No Parking Taxi Stand
- 52 No Parking Fire House

Parking Restrictions

- 53 Parking.....Hour(s)
- 54 .....Hour(s) Parking.....A. M.—.....P. M.
- 55 Diagonal Parking

Pedestrian Regulations

- 56 No Pedestrian Crossing
- 57 Walk on Left Facing Traffic
- 58 Cross on Green Light Only
- 59 Cross on Walk Signal Only
- 60 Cross Only at Cross Walks
- 61 Push Button for Green Light

Miscellaneous Regulations

- 62 Load Limit.....Tons Gross
- 63 Road Closed
- 64 Route for Trucks Over 4 Tons
- 65 The regulatory signs "Signals Set For ..... M.P.H.," "No
- 66 Passing," and "End—No Passing Zone," are permissible for retention until
- 67 replaced or repainted, but in no event shall these signs be retained beyond
- 68 December 31, 1959.

1 10. This act shall take effect immediately.

**STATEMENT**

The purpose of this bill is to bring our traffic laws into greater conformity with the Uniform Motor Vehicle Code. These amendments will promote greater safety on our highways, and will make our traffic laws more sensible, more uniform, and easier to understand, both for our own drivers and those from other States. These amendments are recommended by the State Co-ordinating Council on Traffic and Safety.

## NOTATIONS

S 168 Stout Apr. 2—Authorizes 4th class cities to lease or rent its buildings and other property bordering upon or adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean to any religious, charitable, fraternal, or civic organization, a boys club or a veterans organization, for a term up to 1 year where no building is included, and for up to 2 weeks where same will be used for any amusement, entertainment, convention, sport or exhibition purposes, without first advertising for or requiring bids.

May 24—Passed in Senate, amended.  
June 28—Passed in Assembly.  
Sept. 17—Ret. by Governor with recommended amendment.

S 169 Stout, Farley Apr. 2—Provides that the New Jersey Highway Authority shall have no authority to contract, relative to the use of any part of a highway project for the purpose of erection or use of a building or structure designed for use by the general public as a hotel, motel, lodging or boarding house.

Apr. 16—Passed in Senate.  
May 14—Passed in Assembly.  
June 28—Vetoed by the Governor.

S 171 Shershin Apr. 2 — Requires the secretary of the county elections board, instead of the chairman of the county committee, to notify the Governor, the respective county committee chairmen, county committee vice-chairlady, State chairman, State committeeman and committeewoman, within 5 days after a vacancy in such board; requires the nomination of a successor be made within 10 days after the receipt of such notice by the county committee chairman.

May 14—Passed in Senate, amended.  
May 28—Passed in Assembly.  
June 28—Returned by Governor with recommended amendment.  
Sept. 17—Amended as recommended, passed in Senate.  
Nov. 29—Reenacted in Assembly.  
Dec. 3—Approved, Chapter 167.

S 172 Fox Apr. 2 — Authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development, in the name of the State, to acquire such part of Round Valley, Hunterdon County, as is appropriate and useful for the future establishment of a Water Supply System; authorizes use of eminent domain power; permits use of area for recreational and other State uses; requires reimbursement to municipalities by State for tax losses, and for cost to counties or municipalities of road relocation; appropriates \$3,000,000 out of Veterans Loan Guaranty and Insurance Fund, or so much thereof as may be needed, to purposes of this act.

Apr. 2—State, Co. & Mun. Gov't Com.

S 173 Fox Apr. 2—Reduces the maximum number of licensed harness racing tracks from 4 to 1.

Apr. 2—Business Affairs Com.

S 174 Fox Apr. 2—Provides for the use of voting machines in all counties, presently limited to 1st and 2nd class counties; requires State House Commission provide such voting machines when not furnished by the county freeholders; appropriates \$500,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1955; \$600,000 for the year beginning July 1, 1956, and \$560,000 for the year beginning July 1, 1957.

Apr. 2—State, Co. & Mun. Gov't Com.

S 175 Fox Apr. 2—Establishes minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour and maximum work week of 40 hours with 1½ times hourly rate for overtime for workers in the State; provides for investigations and injunctions in case of violations; prescribes penalties; appropriates \$70,000 to Department of Labor and Industry for enforcement of provisions; effective July 1, 1956.

Apr. 2—Labor & Industrial Rel. Com.

S 176 McCay Apr. 2—Authorizes the Director, Division of Motor Vehicles, to immediately possess, use and improve any property acquired by eminent domain, after the institution of suit in the Superior Court in advance of making compensation for same.

May 14—Passed in Senate.  
June 28—Passed in Assembly.  
July 2—Approved, Chapter 120.

S 177 Harper Apr. 2—Prohibits the driving of a vehicle or street car into an intersection where the preceding traffic prevents immediate clearance of the intersection; specifies revised arm and hand signals for turning, stopping or decreasing speed; permits the use of specified "yield right of way" signs at through streets and regulates the crossing of such streets; requires "stop signs" be painted white on red, instead of black on yellow.

May 3—Passed in Senate.  
May 28—Passed in Assembly.  
June 19—Approved, Chapter 107.

S 178 Ridolfi Apr. 2—Establishes a 12-member Police Training Commission, in the Department of Law and Public Safety, to prescribe standards for the approval and operation of police training schools, and to issue certificates of successful completion of such schools; requires police officers permanently appointed after July 1, 1957, have such a certificate; permits the temporary or probationary appointment of police officers to attend such schools; appropriates \$25,000.

Apr. 2—State, Co. & Mun. Gov't Com.

S 179 Ridolfi Apr. 2—Extends prohibition against persons standing on the roadway of a highway to stop or delay the progress of motor vehicles for the purpose of selling merchandise or soliciting contributions, to include any part of the highway.

Apr. 2—Hwys, Trans & Pub Util Com.

S 180 Ridolfi Apr. 2—Prohibits an obstruction of any nature on any highways without the approval of the State Highway Commissioner; prohibits the repairing or altering of any works on highways, except emergency public utility installation repairs, without such approval; increases the fine for each day of violation from \$100 to \$200.

Apr. 2—Hwys, Trans & Pub Util Com.

S 181 Ridolfi Apr. 2 — Authorizes the State Highway Commissioner to acquire by condemnation proceedings any public lands, parks, playgrounds, reservations, highways or parkways owned in whole or part by any political subdivision of the State, and determined to be reasonably necessary for any highway project.

Apr. 2—Hwys, Trans & Pub Util Com.  
June 28—Reported, 2nd reading.

S 182 Lynch Apr. 2 — Authorizes the Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies, with the approval of the State House Commission, to sell to the Diocese of Trenton for not less than \$600, specified lands located in Edison Township, formerly Raitan Township, Middlesex County.

Apr. 23—Passed in Senate.  
May 28—Passed in Assembly.  
June 7—Approved, Chapter 75.

S 183 Murray Apr. 2 — Authorizes the county election boards in 1st class counties to appoint, in the unclassified civil service, temporary personnel needed to administer the election laws.

Apr. 2—State, Co. & Mun. Gov't Com.  
May 21—Reported, 2nd reading.  
May 24—Passed in Senate.  
May 28—Received in Assembly.  
May 28—No Ref., 2nd reading.

S 184 Hannoid Apr. 2 — Validates Superior Court judgments foreclosing tax sale certificates where the plaintiff became a tenant in common with one or more of the defendants by operation of law subsequent to the plaintiffs acquisition of such certificate, if commenced within two years from such acquisition, provided no proceedings have been instituted prior to or within 60 days of effective date to set same aside.

Apr. 16—Passed in Senate.  
May 14—Passed in Assembly.  
June 28—Vetoed by the Governor.

S 185 Jones Apr. 2—Requires the county freeholders to furnish a list to each municipality of police training schools available and approved for training probationary county and municipal police, by January 31 of each commencing in 1957; requires permanent county and municipal police appointed after January 21, 1957, have completed a police training course at such an approved school.

May 3—Passed in Senate.  
May 28—Passed in Assembly.  
Sept. 17—Vetoed by the Governor.

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