

39:4-119

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 39:4-119

(Street intersections--
flashing red lights-require
motorist to yield)

LAWS OF: 1985

CHAPTER: 59

Bill No: S536

Sponsor(s): Dumont

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Transportation and Communications

Senate: Law, Public Safety and Defense

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: Feb. 4, 1985

Senate: May 17, 1984

Date of Approval: February 27, 1985

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

SENATE, No. 536

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Senator DUMONT

AN ACT concerning stopping at a flashing red traffic light and amending R. S. 39:4-119.

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

1 1. R. S. 39:4-119 is amended to read as follows:

2 39:4-119. Traffic control signals and beacon or flashing signals
3 when operating as flashing mechanisms shall conform to the follow-
4 ing:

5 a. Flashing red: The red lens when illuminated with rapid inter-
6 mittent flashes shall require drivers to come to a complete stop
7 before entering or crossing the intersection. *The driver shall pro-*
8 *ceed only after yielding the right of way to all traffic on the inter-*
9 *secting street which traffic is so close as to constitute an immediate*
10 *hazard.*

11 b. Flashing amber: The amber lens when illuminated with rapid
12 intermittent flashes shall indicate the presence of danger and
13 require drivers to proceed only with caution.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

In the recent case of *Motor Vehicles Division v. Levine*, 190 N. J. Super. 2 (App. Div. 1983), the Superior Court, Appellate Division, held that a motorist's obligation under R. S. 39:4-119, concerning stopping at a flashing red light, was not as great as that imposed by R. S. 39:4-144, concerning stopping at a stop sign. Presently, the latter statute requires a motorist to proceed only after yielding

Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.

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STATEMENT

In the recent case of *Motor Vehicles Division v. Levine*, 190 N. J. Super. 2 (App. Div. 1983), the Superior Court, Appellate Division, held that a motorist's obligation under R. S. 39:4-119, concerning stopping at a flashing red light, was not as great as that imposed by R. S. 39:4-144, concerning stopping at a stop sign. Presently, the latter statute requires a motorist to proceed only after yielding

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the right of way to all traffic on the intersecting street which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. The statute concerning stopping at a flashing red light does not contain such a requirement.

The purpose of this bill is to bring R. S. 39:4-119 in conformity with R. S. 39:4-144 so that a motorist stopping at a flashing red light may proceed only after yielding the right of way to other traffic.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 536

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 6, 1984

R. S. 39:4-119 requires drivers to come to a complete stop before entering or crossing an intersection controlled by a flashing red signal. This bill amends R. S. 39:4-119 to also require that such a driver shall proceed only after yielding the right-of-way to all traffic on the intersecting street which traffic is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

The purpose of this bill is to bring R. S. 39:4-119, which deals with stopping at a flashing red light, into conformity with R. S. 39:4-144, which deals with stopping at a stop sign, so that a motorist stopping at a flashing red light may proceed only after yielding the right-of-way to other traffic.

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 536

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: APRIL 25, 1984

In the recent case of *Motor Vehicles Division v. Levine*, 190 N. J. Super. 2 (App. Div. 1983), the Superior Court, Appellate Division, held that a motorist's obligation under R. S. 39:4-119, concerning stopping at a flashing red light, was not as great as that imposed by R. S. 39:4-144, concerning stopping at a stop sign. At the present time, the statute concerning stopping at a stop sign requires a motorist to proceed only after yielding the right of way to all traffic on the intersecting street that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. The statute concerning stopping at a flashing red light does not contain such a requirement.

The purpose of this bill is to bring R. S. 39:4-119 into conformity with R. S. 39:4-144, so that a motorist stopping at a flashing red light may proceed only after yielding the right of way to other traffic.