

ASSEMBLY, No. 1899

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 30, 1982

By Assemblymen COWAN, T. GALLO, JACKMAN, DEVERIN,
MARKERT, BRYANT and GILL

AN ACT concerning motor vehicles and amending R. S. 39:3-46.

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

1 1. R. S. 39:3-46 is amended to read as follows:

2 39:3-46. As used in this article, unless the context requires
3 another or different construction:

4 "Approved" means approved by the commissioner of motor
5 vehicles and when applied to lamps and other illuminating devices
6 means that such lamps and devices must be in good working order
7 and capable of operating at least 50% of their designed efficiency.

8 "Vehicle" means every device in, upon or by which a person or
9 property is or may be transported upon a highway, excepting
10 devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary
11 rails or tracks.

12 "When lighted lamps are required" means at any time from a
13 half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise and *during any*
14 *time when, due to rain, smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric con-*
15 *ditions or [at any other time] for any other cause* when there is
16 not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles
17 on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

18 "Headlamp" means a major lighting device capable of providing
19 general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

20 "Auxiliary driving lamp" means an additional lighting device on
21 a motor vehicle used primarily to supplement the headlamps in
22 providing general illumination ahead of a vehicle.

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

23 "Single beam headlamps" mean headlamps or similar devices
24 arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use but one
25 distribution of light on the road.

26 "Multiple-beam headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices
27 arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of two
28 or more distributions of light on the road.

29 "Asymmetric headlamps" means headlamps or similar devices
30 arranged so as to permit the driver of the vehicle to use one of
31 several distributions of light on the road, at least one of which is
32 asymmetric about the median vertical axis.

33 "Clear road beam" means the beam from multiple-beam head-
34 lamps designed to be used when not approaching other vehicles and
35 designed to provide sufficient candlepower ahead to reveal obstacles
36 at a safe distance ahead under ordinary conditions of road contour
37 and of vehicle loading.

38 "Meeting beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asym-
39 metric headlamps designed to be used when other vehicles are
40 approaching within 500 feet or when signalled and designed so that
41 the illumination on the left side of the road is reduced sufficiently
42 to avoid dangerous glare for the approaching driver.

43 "Lower beam" means the beam from multiple beam or asym-
44 metric headlamps designed to be directed low enough to avoid
45 dangerous glare on both sides of the roadway.

46 "Reflector" means an approved device designed and used to give
47 an indication by reflected light.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to identify more particularly the situations which require the display of headlights. Lighted lamps will be required during any time when rain, smoke, fog or unfavorable atmospheric conditions create insufficient light.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1899

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 15, 1982

This bill amends R. S. 39:3-46 with respect to times when lights on motor vehicles should be turned on due to impaired visibility. At present, lighted lamps on motor vehicles are required at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise. This bill provides that these lighted lamps, which include headlamps and tail lamps, will also be required during any time when rain, smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or any other condition prevails so that there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

The Division of Motor Vehicles is in agreement with the bill.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1899

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 30, 1983

This bill amends R. S. 39:3-46 with respect to times when lights on motor vehicles should be turned on due to impaired visibility. At present, lighted lamps on motor vehicles are required at any time from a half-hour after sunset to a half-hour before sunrise. This bill provides that these lighted lamps, including both headlamps and taillamps, will also be required during any time when rain, smoke, fog, unfavorable atmospheric conditions or any other condition prevails so that there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: CARL GOLDEN

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1983

Governor Thomas H. Kean today signed legislation to increase the number of Judges of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Monmouth, Morris and Passaic counties.

The bill, A-3548, was sponsored by Assemblyman Joseph Palaia, R-Monmouth.

Under the bill, the number of such judges would be increased from two to four in Morris and Passaic counties and from four to six in Monmouth.

The Governor also signed the following bills:

A-3074, sponsored by Assemblyman Wayne Bryant, D-Camden, to authorize county sheriffs to appoint a chief warrant officer for a term of one year without the person taking a Civil Service test.

A-888, also sponsored by Bryant, to include the cost of relocating utility facilities in the overall cost of highway projects when the project is administered and contracted for by the Department of Transportation.

A-1899, sponsored by Assemblyman Thomas Cowan, D-Hudson, to require drivers to use headlights in rain, fog, smoke or other unfavorable atmospheric conditions when it is impossible to discern persons or vehicles at a distance of 500 feet.

A-1834, sponsored by Assemblywoman Catherine Costa, D-Burlington, to establish a three-year respite care demonstration program to assist families who care for frail or severely disabled adult relatives in their homes. \$200,000 has been appropriated in the budget for the program.