

R.S. 2A: 170-38

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

ON *Unlawful taking or using of means of conveyance.*

N.J.R.S. 2A: 170-38

(1972 Amendment)

LAWS OF 1972

CHAPTER 142 8/31/72

SENATE 126 (A211-1970)

ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED *pre-filed*

BY *Cofiero*

STATEMENT

YES

NO

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE

YES

NO

HEARING

VETO

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CHAPTER.....142.....LAWS OF N. J. 1972

APPROVED8/31/72.....

SENATE, No. 126

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1972 SESSION

By Senator CAFIERO

AN ACT concerning disorderly persons, and amending N. J. S.
2A:170-38.

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

1 1. N. J. S. 2A:170-38 is amended to read as follows:

2 2A:170-38. Any person who unlawfully *takes or uses any* **motor**
3 **vehicle,** *means of conveyance,* or is an accessory thereto, is a
4 disorderly person.

5 *As used in this section "means of conveyance" includes but is*
6 *not limited to motor vehicles, motorcycles, motorbikes, bicycles,*
7 *boats, vessels, surfboards, rafts, skimobiles, airplanes, trains,*
8 *trams and trailers.*

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND
DEFENSE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 126

—•—
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
—•—

DATED: MARCH 16, 1972

Prior to the enactment of the Revised Statutes in 1937 it was a high misdemeanor to steal or take unlawfully any motor vehicle (P. L. 1934, c. 299). As part of the 1937 revision, the offense of stealing was deleted from this particular provision and the offense of unlawfully using a motor vehicle, or being an accessory thereto, was downgraded to a disorderly person offense. The unlawful use of a motor vehicle might, for example, involve the using of an automobile without the owner's permission. (Theft of an automobile remains a misdemeanor where the value is less than \$500.00 and a high misdemeanor where the value is \$500.00 or over. N. J. S. 2A:119-2. Amended by P. L. 1970, c. 298.)

Senate Bill No. 126 amends N. J. S. 2A:170-38 to encompass any means of conveyance, rather than only motor vehicles, and further includes the act of unlawfully taking, as well as using, any means of conveyance.

“Means of conveyance” is defined to include, but not be limited to motor vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, boats, vessels, surfboards, rafts, skimobiles, airplanes, trains, trams, and trailers.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

AUGUST 31, 1972

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Acting Governor Thomas H. Kean signed into law today a bill which extends auto theft penalties to cover any conveyance, including surfboards, rafts and skimobiles.

Sponsored by Senator James S. Cafiero of Cape May and Cumberland Counties, Senate 126 makes it a disorderly persons offence to steal any means of transportation. The bill lists, but does not limit, conveyances to motor vehicles, motorcycles, motorbikes, bicycles, boats, vessels, trains, airplanes, trams and trailers.

The Acting Governor also signed Senate 132, sponsored by Senator Cafiero, which prohibits the discarding or abandoning of any disposable or reusable hypodermic needle or syringe in any public or private place without first destroying the needle or syringe.

Also signed was Assembly 168, sponsored by Assemblyman Peter Caribaldi of Middlesex County, which extends free motor vehicle registration to disabled veterans whose cars are registered jointly with a spouse.

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