

2C:33-14

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2007 **CHAPTER:** 145

NJSA: 2C:33-14 (Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle)

BILL NO: A415 (Substituted for S585)

SPONSOR(S): Bodine and Bramnick

DATE INTRODUCED: January 10, 2006

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Law and Public Safety

SENATE: Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** June 21, 2007

SENATE: June 18, 2007

DATE OF APPROVAL: August 21, 2007

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (First reprint enacted)

A415

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT](#): (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#)

SENATE: [Yes](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S585

[SPONSOR'S STATEMENT](#): (Begins on page 3 of original bill) [Yes](#)

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSITUTE: [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** No

SENATE: [Yes](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

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P.L. 2007, CHAPTER 145, *approved August 21, 2007*
Assembly, No. 415 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning interference with transportation and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:33-14.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. N.J.S.2C:33-14 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:33-14. a. Interference with Transportation. A person is guilty
9 of interference with transportation if the person purposely or
10 knowingly:

11 (1) casts, shoots or throws anything at, against or into any
12 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
13 railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car,
14 ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation; or

15 (2) casts, shoots, throws or otherwise places any stick, stone,
16 object or other substance upon any street railway track, trolley track
17 or railroad track; or

18 (3) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
19 by casting, shooting, throwing or otherwise placing any stick, stone,
20 object or other substance upon any highway or roadway; or

21 (4) unlawfully climbs into or upon any ¹light rail vehicle,
22 railroad locomotive or¹ railroad car, either in motion or standing on
23 the track of any railroad company in this State; or

24 (5) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of any
25 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
26 railroad locomotive, train, bus, jitney, trolley, subway, airplane or
27 any other facility of transportation. The term "unlawfully disrupts,
28 delays or prevents the operation of" does not include non-violent
29 conduct growing out of a labor dispute as defined in N.J.S.2A:15-
30 58; or

31 (6) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
32 by using a traffic control preemption device to interfere with or
33 impair the operation of a traffic control signal as defined in
34 R.S.39:1-1; or

35 (7) shines, points or focuses a laser lighting device beam,
36 directly or indirectly, upon a person operating any vehicle,
37 including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad
38 locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry,
39 airplane, or other facility of transportation. As used in this
40 paragraph, "laser lighting device" means a device which emits a
41 laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or
42 highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place,
43 item or object.

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 underlined **thus** is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SLP committee amendments adopted May 21, 2007.

1 As used in this subsection, "traffic control preemption device"
2 means an infrared transmitter or other device which transmits an
3 infrared beam, radio wave or other signal designed to change, alter,
4 or disrupt in any manner the normal operation of a traffic control
5 signal.

6 b. Interference with transportation is a disorderly persons
7 offense.

8 c. Interference with transportation is a crime of the fourth
9 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
10 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss in excess of
11 \$500 but less than ~~[\$2000]~~ \$2,000.

12 d. Interference with transportation is a crime of the third degree
13 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes significant
14 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss of ~~[\$2000]~~
15 \$2,000 or more, or if the person purposely or knowingly creates a
16 risk of significant bodily injury to another person.

17 e. Interference with transportation is a crime of the second
18 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
19 serious bodily injury to another person.

20 (cf: P.L.2005, c.96, s.1)

21

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

23

24

25

26

27 Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle.

ASSEMBLY, No. 415

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman FRANCIS L. BODINE

District 8 (Burlington)

Assemblyman JON M. BRAMNICK

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning interference with transportation and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:33-14.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. N.J.S.2C:33-14 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:33-14. a. Interference with Transportation. A person is guilty
9 of interference with transportation if the person purposely or
10 knowingly:

11 (1) casts, shoots or throws anything at, against or into any
12 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
13 railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney trolley car, subway car,
14 ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation; or

15 (2) casts, shoots, throws or otherwise places any stick, stone,
16 object or other substance upon any runway, street railway track,
17 trolley track or railroad track ;or

18 (3) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
19 by casting, shooting, throwing or otherwise placing any stick, stone,
20 object or other substance upon any highway or roadway; or

21 (4) unlawfully climbs into or upon any railroad car, either in
22 motion or standing on the track of any railroad company in this
23 State; or

24 (5) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of any
25 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
26 railroad locomotive, train, bus, jitney, trolley, subway, airplane or
27 any other facility of transportation. The term "unlawfully disrupts,
28 delays or prevents the operation of" does not include non-violent
29 conduct growing out of a labor dispute as defined in N.J.S.2A:15-
30 58; or

31 (6) shines, points or focuses a laser lighting device beam,
32 directly or indirectly, upon a person operating any vehicle,
33 including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad
34 locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry,
35 airplane, or other facility of transportation. As used in this
36 paragraph, "laser lighting device" means a device which emits a
37 laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or
38 highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place,
39 item or object.

40 b. Interference with transportation is a disorderly persons
41 offense.

42 c. Interference with transportation is a crime of the fourth degree
43 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily
44 injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss in excess of \$500
45 but less than \$2000.

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 underlined thus is new matter.

1 d. Interference with transportation is a crime of the third degree
2 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes significant
3 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss of \$2000 or
4 more, or if the person purposely or knowingly creates a risk of
5 significant bodily injury to another person.

6 e. Interference with transportation is a crime of the second
7 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
8 serious bodily injury to another person.
9 (cf: P.L.2001, c.413, s.2)

10

11 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

12

13

14

STATEMENT

15

16 This bill makes purposely or knowingly pointing a laser beam at
17 the operator of a vehicle, including, but not limited to a bus, light
18 rail vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car,
19 subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a
20 disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is
21 punishable by a fine of up to \$1000, a term of imprisonment of up
22 to six months, or both.

23 The bill also clarifies that the crime of interference with
24 transportation is committed if a person: 1) casts, shoots or throws
25 something at a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive or jitney;
26 2) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of these
27 vehicles; or casts, shoots or throws or places a stick, stone or other
28 object on a runway.

29 The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely,
30 knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage.
31 The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or
32 property damage.

33 The bill defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits a
34 laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or
35 highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place,
36 item or object.

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 415

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 30, 2006

Assembly Bill No. 415 makes purposely or knowingly pointing, shining or focusing a laser beam at the operator of a vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, a term of imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

The bill also clarifies that the crime of interference with transportation is committed if a person: 1) casts, shoots or throws something at a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive or jitney; 2) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of these vehicles; or casts, shoots or throws or places a stick, stone or other object on a runway.

The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage. The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or property damage.

The bill defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place, item or object.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2006 legislative session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND VETERANS'
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 415

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 21, 2007

The Senate Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 415.

This bill makes purposely or knowingly pointing, shining or focusing a laser beam at the operator of a vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, a term of imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

The bill also clarifies that the crime of interference with transportation is committed if a person: 1) casts, shoots or throws something at a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive or jitney; or 2) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of these vehicles. The committee amended the bill to provide that the crime of interference with transportation is committed if a person unlawfully climbs into or upon any light rail vehicle or railroad locomotive that is in motion or standing on the track.

The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage. The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or property damage.

The bill defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place, item or object.

As amended and reported by the committee, this bill is identical to the Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 585, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

SENATE, No. 585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 212th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2006 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH M. KYRILLOS, JR.

District 13 (Middlesex and Monmouth)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning interference with transportation and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:33-14.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. N.J.S.2C:33-14 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:33-14. a. Interference with Transportation. A person is
9 guilty of interference with transportation if the person purposely or
10 knowingly:

11 (1) casts, shoots or throws anything at, against or into any
12 vehicle, railroad car, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or
13 other facility of transportation; or

14 (2) casts, shoots, throws or otherwise places any stick, stone,
15 object or other substance upon any street railway track, trolley track
16 or railroad track ;or

17 (3) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
18 by casting, shooting, throwing or otherwise placing any stick, stone,
19 object or other substance upon any highway or roadway; or

20 (4) unlawfully climbs into or upon any railroad car, either in
21 motion or standing on the track of any railroad company in this
22 State; or

23 (5) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of any
24 train, bus, jitney, trolley, subway, airplane or any other facility of
25 transportation. The term "unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents
26 the operation of" does not include non-violent conduct growing out
27 of a labor dispute as defined in N.J.S.2A:15-58; or

28 (6) shines, points or focuses a laser lighting device beam,
29 directly or indirectly, upon a person operating any vehicle, railroad
30 locomotive, railroad car, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or
31 other facility of transportation. As used in this paragraph, "laser
32 lighting device" means a device which emits a laser beam that is
33 designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to
34 indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place, item or object.

35 b. Interference with transportation is a disorderly persons
36 offense.

37 c. Interference with transportation is a crime of the fourth degree
38 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily
39 injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss in excess of \$500
40 but less than \$2000.

41 d. Interference with transportation is a crime of the third degree
42 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes significant
43 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss of \$2000 or
44 more, or if the person purposely or knowingly creates a risk of
45 significant bodily injury to another person.

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 underlined thus is new matter.

1 e. Interference with transportation is a crime of the second
2 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
3 serious bodily injury to another person.

4 (cf: P.L.2001, c.413, s.2)

5
6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

7
8
9 STATEMENT

10
11 This bill makes purposely and knowingly pointing a laser beam
12 at the operator of a vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, trolley
13 car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a
14 disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is
15 punishable by a fine of up to \$1000, a term of imprisonment of up
16 to six months, or both.

17 The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely,
18 knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage.
19 The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or
20 property damage.

21 This bill defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits
22 a laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer
23 or highlighter to indicate, mark, or identify a specific position,
24 place, item or object.

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No. 585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
212th LEGISLATURE

ADOPTED MAY 21, 2007

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH M. KYRILLOS, JR.

District 13 (Middlesex and Monmouth)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes penalties for pointing laser at operator of vehicle.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Substitute as adopted by the Senate Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs Committee.



1 AN ACT concerning interference with transportation and amending
2 N.J.S.2C:33-14.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. N.J.S.2C:33-14 is amended to read as follows:

8 2C:33-14. a. Interference with Transportation. A person is guilty
9 of interference with transportation if the person purposely or
10 knowingly:

11 (1) casts, shoots or throws anything at, against or into any
12 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
13 railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car,
14 ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation; or

15 (2) casts, shoots, throws or otherwise places any stick, stone,
16 object or other substance upon any street railway track, trolley track
17 or railroad track; or

18 (3) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
19 by casting, shooting, throwing or otherwise placing any stick, stone,
20 object or other substance upon any highway or roadway; or

21 (4) unlawfully climbs into or upon any light rail vehicle,
22 railroad locomotive or railroad car, either in motion or standing on
23 the track of any railroad company in this State; or

24 (5) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of any
25 vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle,
26 railroad locomotive, train, bus, jitney, trolley, subway, airplane or
27 any other facility of transportation. The term "unlawfully disrupts,
28 delays or prevents the operation of" does not include non-violent
29 conduct growing out of a labor dispute as defined in N.J.S.2A:15-
30 58; or

31 (6) endangers or obstructs the safe operation of motor vehicles
32 by using a traffic control preemption device to interfere with or
33 impair the operation of a traffic control signal as defined in
34 R.S.39:1-1; or

35 (7) shines, points or focuses a laser lighting device beam,
36 directly or indirectly, upon a person operating any vehicle,
37 including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad
38 locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry,
39 airplane, or other facility of transportation. As used in this
40 paragraph, "laser lighting device" means a device which emits a
41 laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or
42 highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place,
43 item or object.

44 As used in this subsection, "traffic control preemption device"
45 means an infrared transmitter or other device which transmits an

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 underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 infrared beam, radio wave or other signal designed to change, alter,
2 or disrupt in any manner the normal operation of a traffic control
3 signal.
- 4 b. Interference with transportation is a disorderly persons
5 offense.
- 6 c. Interference with transportation is a crime of the fourth
7 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
8 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss in excess of
9 \$500 but less than ~~[\$2000]~~ \$2,000.
- 10 d. Interference with transportation is a crime of the third degree
11 if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes significant
12 bodily injury to another person or causes pecuniary loss of ~~[\$2000]~~
13 \$2,000 or more, or if the person purposely or knowingly creates a
14 risk of significant bodily injury to another person.
- 15 e. Interference with transportation is a crime of the second
16 degree if the person purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes
17 serious bodily injury to another person.
18 (cf: P.L.2005, c.96, s.1)
19
- 20 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND VETERANS'
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE, No. 585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 21, 2007

The Senate Law and Public Safety and Veteran's Affairs Committee reports favorably a Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 585.

This committee substitute makes purposely or knowingly pointing, shining or focusing a laser beam at the operator of a vehicle, including, but not limited to, a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive, railroad car, jitney, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane, or other facility of transportation a disorderly persons offense. A disorderly persons offense is punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, a term of imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

The committee substitute also clarifies that the crime of interference with transportation is committed if a person: 1) casts, shoots or throws something at a bus, light rail vehicle, railroad locomotive or jitney; 2) unlawfully climbs into or upon any light rail vehicle or railroad locomotive that is in motion or standing on the track; or 3) unlawfully disrupts, delays or prevents the operation of these vehicles.

The offense is upgraded to a crime if the offender purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury or property damage. The degree of the crime is determined by the extent of the injury or property damage.

The committee substitute defines "laser lighting device" as a device which emits a laser beam that is designed to be used by the operator as a pointer or highlighter to indicate, mark or identify a specific position, place, item or object.

As reported by the committee, this committee substitute is identical to Assembly Bill No. 415, which also was amended and reported by the committee on this same date.