

FISCAL NOTE TO  
**SENATE, No. 373**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: APRIL 8, 1968

Senate Bill No. 373 would require that all motor vehicle license plates issued subsequent to December 31, 1968, shall be treated by the department with special reflectorized materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof.

The Department of Law and Public Safety estimates that enactment of Senate Bill No. 373 would require a State expenditure of \$297,000.00 for fiscal 1968-69 and \$594,000.00 for fiscal 1969-70.

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In compliance with written request received, there is hereby submitted a fiscal estimate for the above bill, pursuant to P. L. 1962, c. 27.

Returned with Gov's  
Recommendations

2/10/68

SENATE, No. 373

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1968

By Senators WHITE, MILLER, H. A. KELLY and ITALIANO

Referred to Committee on Law, Public Safety and Defense

AN ACT concerning motor vehicles and traffic regulations, amending section 39:3-33 of the Revised Statutes and making an appropriation.

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

1 1. Section 39:3-33 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 39:3-33. The owner of an automobile which is driven on the  
4 public highways of this State shall display not less than 12 inches  
5 nor more than 48 inches from the ground in a horizontal position,  
6 and in such a way as not to swing, an identification mark or marks  
7 to be furnished by the department; provided, that if 2 marks are  
8 issued they shall be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle;  
9 and provided, further, that if only one mark is issued it shall be  
10 displayed on the rear of the vehicle; and provided, further, that  
11 the rear identification mark may be displayed more than 48 inches  
12 from the ground on tank trucks, trailers and other commercial  
13 vehicles carrying inflammable liquids. Motorcycles shall also dis-  
14 play an identification mark or marks; provided, that if 2 marks  
15 are issued they shall be displayed on the front and rear of the  
16 motorcycle; and provided, further, that if only one mark is issued  
17 it shall be displayed on the rear of the motorcycle.

18 The identification mark or marks shall contain the number of  
19 the registration certificate of the vehicle and shall be of such  
20 design and material as the commissioner prescribes. *All registra-*  
21 *tion plates or markers issued subsequent to December 31, 1968,*  
22 *shall be treated by the department with special reflectorized ma-*  
23 *terials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof.* All  
24 identification marks shall be kept clear and distinct and free from  
25 grease, dust or other blurring matter, so as to be plainly visible  
26 at all times of the day and night.

27 The director is authorized and empowered to issue registration  
28 plate inserts, to be inserted in and attached to the registration  
29 plates or markers described herein. They may be issued in the  
30 place of new registration plates or markers; and inscribed thereon,  
31 in numerals, shall be the year in which registration of the vehicle  
32 has been granted.

33 No person shall drive a motor vehicle, the owner of which has  
34 not complied with the provisions of this subtitle concerning the  
35 proper registration and identification thereof, nor drive a motor  
36 vehicle which displays a fictitious number, or a number other than  
37 that designated for the motor vehicle in its registration certificate.

38 A person convicted of displaying a fictitious number, as pro-  
39 hibited herein, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$500.00 or  
40 imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 60 days.

41 A person violating any other provision of this section shall be  
42 subject to a fine not exceeding \$100.00. In default of the payment  
43 thereof, there shall be imposed an imprisonment in the county jail  
44 for a period not exceeding 10 days. A person convicted of a second  
45 offense of the same violation may be fined in double the amount  
46 herein prescribed for the first offense and may, in default of the  
47 payment thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the county jail  
48 for a period not exceeding 20 days. These penalties shall not apply  
49 to the display of a fictitious number.

1 2. There is hereby appropriated to the Division of Motor Vehicles  
2 the sum of \$200,000.00 or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
3 the purpose of implementing this act for the fiscal year ending  
4 June 30, 1969.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

September 10, 1968

SENATE BILL NO. 373

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section 1, paragraph 14(b) of the Constitution, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 373, with my objections, for reconsideration.

This bill would require that all motor vehicle license plates issued subsequent to December 31, 1968, shall be treated with special reflectorized materials. Because reflectorized plates may contribute -- even if only slightly -- to improved highway safety, I approve the purpose of this bill.

However, the production of reflectorized plates will require the use of different materials and the installation of new equipment by the Bureau of State Use Industries, which manufactures the plates for the State. The quantity of materials already on hand or contracted for, and which will not be suitable for use in the reflectorized plates, and cannot be readily disposed of for other purposes, will not be exhausted until plates have been produced to supply most of the estimated needs for the first half of 1969. Production of the new, reflectorized plates will require installation of large-scale new equipment, because the process involves heating, laminating, and baking procedures not required for the present plates. The new equipment cannot be fitted into the present assembly-line and will necessitate the transfer of operations to a new assembly-line.

To facilitate the orderly transition in manufacture and distribution of plates from the present type to the new reflectorized plates, I recommend that the deadline after which the present type of plates may not be distributed be postponed until August 31, 1969. It is expected that the distribution of new plates will begin well before that date, but this schedule will provide time for restocking plate supplies in the motor vehicle agencies and will afford reasonable leeway in case any difficulties are encountered in the new production process.

The postponement I recommend will avoid disrupting the worthwhile program of helping to rehabilitate correctional inmates through constructive work under the Bureau of State Use Industries and will also avoid a substantial waste of State funds. The only way the State could possibly obtain reflectorized plates for distribution

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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starting next January would be to purchase the plates on an emergency basis from some private manufacturer. There is no assurance that such arrangements could be made.

I therefore recommend that the bill be amended as follows:

On page 1, section 1, in lines 21 through 23, delete: "All registration plates or markers issued subsequent to December 31, 1968, shall be treated by the department with special reflectorized materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof." In lieu thereof, insert the following: "All registration plates or markers issued by the department subsequent to August 31, 1969, shall be treated with special reflectorized materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof."

[seal]

Respectfully,

/S/ RICHARD J. HUGHES

GOVERNOR

Attest:

/S/ ALAN J. KARCHER

Acting Secretary to the Governor

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO  
**SENATE, No. 373**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 10, 1968

Amend page 1, section 1, lines 20 through 23, delete "All registration plates or markers issued subsequent to December 31, 1968, shall be treated by the department with special reflectorized materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof.", in lieu thereof, insert the following: "All registration plates or markers issued by the department subsequent to August 31, 1969, shall be treated with special reflectorized materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof."

CHAPTER 363 LAWS OF N. J. 1968

APPROVED 12/26/68

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 373

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1968

By Senators WHITE, MILLER, H. A. KELLY and ITALIANO

Referred to Committee on Law, Public Safety and Defense

AN ACT concerning motor vehicles and traffic regulations, amending section 39:3-33 of the Revised Statutes and making an appropriation.

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

1 1. Section 39:3-33 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 39:3-33. The owner of an automobile which is driven on the  
4 public highways of this State shall display not less than 12 inches  
5 nor more than 48 inches from the ground in a horizontal position,  
6 and in such a way as not to swing, an identification mark or marks  
7 to be furnished by the department; provided, that if 2 marks are  
8 issued they shall be displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle;  
9 and provided, further, that if only one mark is issued it shall be  
10 displayed on the rear of the vehicle; and provided, further, that  
11 the rear identification mark may be displayed more than 48 inches  
12 from the ground on tank trucks, trailers and other commercial  
13 vehicles carrying inflammable liquids. Motoreycles shall also dis-  
14 play an identification mark or marks; provided, that if 2 marks  
15 are issued they shall be displayed on the front and rear of the  
16 motorecycle; and provided, further, that if only one mark is issued  
17 it shall be displayed on the rear of the motorecycle.

18 The identification mark or marks shall contain the number of  
19 the registration certificate of the vehicle and shall be of such design  
20 and material as the commissioner prescribes. \***[All registration**  
21 *plates or markers issued subsequent to December 31, 1968, shall be*  
22 *treated by the department with special reflectorized materials*  
23 *designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof.]* \***All**  
24 *registration plates or markers issued by the department subsequent*  
25 *to August 31, 1969, shall be treated with special reflectorized*

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

26 *materials designed to increase the visibility and legibility thereof.\**

27 All identification marks shall be kept clear and distinct and free  
28 from grease, dust or other blurring matter, so as to be plainly  
29 visible at all times of the day and night.

30 The director is authorized and empowered to issue registration  
31 plate inserts, to be inserted in and attached to the registration  
32 plates or markers described herein. They may be issued in the  
33 place of new registration plates or markers; and inscribed thereon,  
34 in numerals, shall be the year in which registration of the vehicle  
35 has been granted.

36 No person shall drive a motor vehicle, the owner of which has  
37 not complied with the provisions of this subtitle concerning the  
38 proper registration and identification thereof, nor drive a motor  
39 vehicle which displays a fictitious number, or a number other than  
40 that designated for the motor vehicle in its registration certificate.

41 A person convicted of displaying a fictitious number, as pro-  
42 hibited herein, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$500.00 or  
43 imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 60 days.

44 A person violating any other provision of this section shall be  
45 subject to a fine not exceeding \$100.00. In default of the payment  
46 thereof, there shall be imposed an imprisonment in the county jail  
47 for a period not exceeding 10 days. A person convicted of a second  
48 offense of the same violation may be fined in double the amount  
49 herein prescribed for the first offense and may, in default of the  
50 payment thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the county jail  
51 for a period not exceeding 20 days. These penalties shall not apply  
52 to the display of a fictitious number.

1 2. There is hereby appropriated to the Division of Motor Vehicles  
2 the sum of \$200,000.00 or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
3 the purpose of implementing this act for the fiscal year ending  
4 June 30, 1969.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.