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LAW/RWH

P.L.2013, CHAPTER 230, *approved January 17, 2014*

Assembly, No. 354 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle lighting ¹**[and]**,¹ amending
2 R.S.39:3-61 ¹**[and R.S.39:3-66]** ^{2, 2} and supplementing chapter 3
3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes¹.

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

7
8 1. R.S.39:3-61 is amended to read as follows:

9 39:3-61. (a) Every motor vehicle other than a motor cycle and
10 other than a motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front
11 with at least ²**[2]** ²two² headlamps, an equal number at each side,
12 and with ²**[2]** ²two² turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear
13 with ²**[2]** ²two² tail lamps, ²**[2]** ²two² ¹or ¹more¹ stop lamps, ¹as
14 prescribed by section 2 of P.L. , c (C.) (pending before the
15 Legislature as this bill),¹ ²**[2]** ²two² turn signals ^{2, 2} and ²**[2]** ²two²
16 reflectors, one of each at each side; except that a passenger vehicle
17 manufactured before July 2, 1954, and registered in this State may
18 be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector ^{2, 2} and one tail lamp
19 and is not required to be equipped with turn signals. In addition,
20 every ²**[such]** ²motor² vehicle shall be equipped with adequate
21 license plate illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of
22 providing parking light as required in ²**[section 39:3-62]** ²R.S.39:3-
23 ²62². Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor
24 equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and so
25 constructed and located as to be visible to passing drivers.

26 (b) Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall
27 be equipped on the front with ²**[2]** ²two² clearance lamps, one at
28 each side, and ²**[3]** ²three² identification lamps, which shall be in
29 addition to the lamps provided for in paragraph (a) of this section.
30 Where the cab is not more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line,
31 a single lamp at the center of the cab shall be deemed to comply
32 with the requirement for front identification lamps. Reflectors
33 required on the rear of a truck tractor may be located on the rear of
34 the cab, one at each side.

35 (c) Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a
36 dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width
37 which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and
38 manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the

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:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted December 17, 2012.

²Senate STR committee amendments adopted November 7, 2013.

1 following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in
2 paragraph (a) of this section;

3 On the front, ²~~[2]~~ two² clearance lamps, one at each side, and
4 ²~~[3]~~ three² identification lamps except that where the cab is not
5 more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the
6 center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement
7 for front identification lamps;

8 On the rear, ²~~[2]~~ two² clearance lamps, one at each side, and
9 ²~~[3]~~ three² identification lamps;

10 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
11 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
12 rear.

13 (d) Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with
14 ²~~[2]~~ two² tail lamps, ²~~[2]~~ two² stop lamps, ²~~[2]~~ two² turn signals
15 ²~~[2]~~ two² and ²~~[2]~~ two² reflectors, one of each at each side, and with
16 adequate license plate illumination.

17 (e) Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all
18 width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer ²~~[2]~~ two² or a
19 converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and
20 reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this
21 section:

22 On the front, ²~~[2]~~ two² clearance lamps, one at each side;

23 On the rear, ²~~[2]~~ two² clearance lamps, one at each side, and
24 except with respect to cable reel trailers, ²~~[3]~~ three² identification
25 lamps;

26 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
27 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
28 rear; and on any ²~~[such]~~ trailer or semi-trailer² vehicle 30 feet or
29 more in length, at least one additional side-marker lamp at optional
30 height and at least one additional reflector, the additional lamp
31 ²~~[(or lamps)]~~ or lamps² and reflector ²~~[(or reflectors)]~~ or
32 reflectors² to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform
33 spacing in the length of the vehicle.

34 (f) Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:

35 On the rear, ²~~[2]~~ two² tail lamps, one at each side; ²~~[2]~~ two²
36 stop lamps, one at each side; ²~~[2]~~ two² turn signals, one at each
37 side; ²~~[2]~~ two² reflectors, one at each side, placed to indicate
38 extreme width of the pole trailer; ²~~[3]~~ three² identification lamps
39 mounted on the vertical center line of the pole trailer or in lieu
40 thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the rear of the cab of
41 the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and higher than the load
42 being transported.

43 On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of
44 the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load; on the
45 rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp
46 showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to

1 indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support
2 for the load, one red reflector.

3 Nothing in this subsection ²[(f)]² shall apply to a single axle,
4 skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and
5 not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width which is designed to
6 transport poles and is owned by a public utility as defined in
7 ²[section 48:2-13 of the Revised Statutes] R.S.48:2-13² except that
8 such vehicles shall be required to have on the rear, ²[2] two² tail
9 lamps, one at each side; stop lamps, one at each side; ²[2] two² turn
10 signals, one at each side; ²[2] two² reflectors, one at each side on
11 each side; and one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of
12 the load.

13 (g) Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a
14 semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one
15 tail lamp, ²[2] two² reflectors, one at each side, and adequate
16 license plate illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when
17 the converter dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle. A
18 "converter dolly" is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or
19 equivalent mechanism, the attachment of which converts a
20 semitrailer to a trailer.

21 (h) Every motor cycle shall be equipped with at least one and not
22 more than ²[2] two² headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at
23 least one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination
24 and, if a side car or any other extension is attached to the side
25 thereof, one lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment
26 capable of displaying white light to the front.

27 (i) Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by
28 the ²[director] chief administrator². Turn signals shall be Class A
29 Type 1 lamps except that on passenger cars, and on commercial
30 vehicles less than 80 inches in over-all width they may be Class B
31 lamps. Reflectors shall be Class A reflex reflectors except that on
32 passenger cars they may be Class B reflex reflectors.

33 (j) ¹[Required] ¹[All] Required¹ headlamps, tail lamps,
34 clearance lamps, identification lamps ^{2,2} and side-marker lamps
35 shall be lighted and adequate license plate illumination displayed
36 whenever the vehicle other than a converter dolly is upon a highway
37 when lighted lamps are required except when parked and exhibiting
38 lights as provided for in ²[section 39:3-62] R.S.39:3-62² or when
39 stopped and displaying emergency warning lights or devices as
40 provided for in ²[section 39:3-64] R.S.39:3-64² or ²[section 39:3-
41 54] R.S.39:3-54². Lamps on a converter dolly shall be lighted as
42 provided for in paragraph (g) of this section. Turn signals on the
43 side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate
44 the turning movement. Stop lamps shall be lighted as provided in
45 section 9 of ²[this act] P.L.1964, c.136 (C.39:3-61.3)².

1 (k) License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate
2 when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp is so constructed and
3 placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear ²**[registration]**
4 license² plate on a vehicle and render it clearly legible from a
5 distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any lamp or lamps providing
6 ²**[such]**² illumination shall be lighted whenever the headlamps or
7 other driving lamps are lighted.

8 (l) Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle
9 with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to
10 park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby and make
11 the necessary repairs or replacement to restore the lamp to working
12 order before moving the vehicle, in which event, there is no
13 violation of this Title.

14 (m) Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that
15 has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety
16 devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be
17 deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

18 (cf: P.L.1964, c.281, s.1)

19
20 ¹**[2. R.S.39:3-66 is amended to read as follows:**

21 39:3-66. All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices
22 **[required by this article]** equipped on a motor vehicle shall be kept
23 clean and in good working order and, as far as practicable, shall be
24 mounted in such a manner as to reduce the likelihood of their being
25 obscured by mud or dust thrown up by the wheels.

26 (cf: R.S.39:3-66)]¹

27
28 ¹2. (New section) Every motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle,
29 shall be equipped on the rear with at least two stoplights, one at
30 each side of the vertical centerline at the same height and as far
31 apart as practical, except that a passenger vehicle manufactured
32 before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one stoplight.

33 All passenger automobiles manufactured on or after September
34 1, 1985, shall, in addition, be equipped with a high-mounted rear
35 stoplight on the vertical centerline.

36 All multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and modified buses
37 whose overall width is less than 80 inches and whose GVWR is
38 10,000 pounds or less, manufactured on or after September 1, 1993,
39 shall, in addition, be equipped with a high-mounted rear stoplight
40 on the vertical centerline.

41 All multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and modified buses
42 whose overall width is less than 80 inches and whose GVWR is
43 10,000 pounds or less and whose vertical centerline, when the
44 vehicle is viewed from the rear, is not located on a fixed body panel
45 but separate one or two moveable body section, such as doors, and
46 which lacks sufficient space to install a single high-mounted
47 stoplight on the centerline above such body sections, and which is

1 manufactured on or after September 1, 1993, shall, in addition, be
2 equipped with two high-mounted rear stoplights.

3 All stoplights shall be of a type meeting the standards of the
4 United States Department of Transportation or, for motor vehicles
5 manufactured prior to the adoption of such standards, the standards
6 of the Society of Automotive Engineers, and approved by the chief
7 administrator.¹

8

9 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the second month
10 following enactment.

11

12

13

14

15 Requires all lamps and lighting devices on motor vehicles be
16 kept in working order.

ASSEMBLY, No. 354

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2012 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman REED GUSCIORA

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman PETER J. BARNES, III

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman GARY R. CHIUSANO

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

SYNOPSIS

Requires all lamps and lighting devices on motor vehicles be kept in working order.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/28/2012)

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle lighting and amending R.S.39:3-
2 61 and R.S.39:3-66.

3

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

6

7 1. R.S.39:3-61 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-61. (a) Every motor vehicle other than a motor cycle and
9 other than a motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front
10 with at least 2 headlamps, an equal number at each side, and with 2
11 turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with 2 tail lamps, 2
12 stop lamps, 2 turn signals and 2 reflectors, one of each at each side;
13 except that a passenger vehicle manufactured before July 2, 1954,
14 and registered in this State may be equipped with one stop lamp,
15 one reflector and one tail lamp and is not required to be equipped
16 with turn signals. In addition, every such vehicle shall be equipped
17 with adequate license plate illumination, and with one or more
18 lamps capable of providing parking light as required in section
19 39:3-62. Turn signals are not required on the rear of a truck tractor
20 equipped with double-faced turn signals on or near the front and so
21 constructed and located as to be visible to passing drivers.

22 (b) Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall
23 be equipped on the front with 2 clearance lamps, one at each side,
24 and 3 identification lamps, which shall be in addition to the lamps
25 provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. Where the cab is not
26 more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the
27 center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement
28 for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a
29 truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

30 (c) Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a
31 dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width
32 which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and
33 manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the
34 following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in
35 paragraph (a) of this section;

36 On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3
37 identification lamps except that where the cab is not more than 42
38 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the
39 cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front
40 identification lamps;

41 On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3
42 identification lamps;

43 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
44 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
45 rear.

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) Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with
2 2 tail lamps, 2 stop lamps, 2 turn signals and 2 reflectors, one of
3 each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination.

4 (e) Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all
5 width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a
6 converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and
7 reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this
8 section:

9 On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

10 On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with
11 respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps;

12 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
13 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
14 rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one
15 additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one
16 additional reflector, the additional lamp (or lamps) and reflector (or
17 reflectors) to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform
18 spacing in the length of the vehicle.

19 (f) Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:

20 On the rear, 2 tail lamps, one at each side; 2 stop lamps, one at
21 each side; 2 turn signals, one at each side; 2 reflectors, one at each
22 side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; 3
23 identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole
24 trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the
25 rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and
26 higher than the load being transported.

27 On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of
28 the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load; on the
29 rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp
30 showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to
31 indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost
32 support for the load, one red reflector.

33 Nothing in this subsection (f) shall apply to a single axle,
34 skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and
35 not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width which is designed to
36 transport poles and is owned by a public utility as defined in
37 section 48:2-13 of the Revised Statutes except that such vehicles
38 shall be required to have on the rear, 2 tail lamps, one at each side;
39 2 stop lamps, one at each side; 2 turn signals, one at each side; 2
40 reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-
41 marker lamp at or near the front of the load.

42 (g) Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a
43 semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one
44 tail lamp, 2 reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate
45 illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter
46 dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle. A "converter
47 dolly" is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent

1 mechanism, the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a
2 trailer.

3 (h) Every motor cycle shall be equipped with at least one and
4 not more than 2 headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least
5 one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if
6 a side car or any other extension is attached to the side thereof, one
7 lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of
8 displaying white light to the front.

9 (i) Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by
10 the director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that
11 on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches
12 in over-all width they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be
13 Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be
14 Class B reflex reflectors.

15 (j) **【Required】** All headlamps, tail lamps, clearance lamps,
16 identification lamps and side-marker lamps shall be lighted and
17 adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever the vehicle
18 other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps
19 are required except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided
20 for in section 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency
21 warning lights or devices as provided for in section 39:3-64 or
22 section 39:3-54. Lamps on a converter dolly shall be lighted as
23 provided for in paragraph (g) of this section. Turn signals on the
24 side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to
25 indicate the turning movement. Stop lamps shall be lighted as
26 provided in section 9 of this act.

27 (k) License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate
28 when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp is so constructed and
29 placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate
30 on a vehicle and render it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet
31 to the rear. Any lamp or lamps providing such illumination shall
32 be lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are
33 lighted.

34 (l) Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle
35 with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to
36 park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby and make
37 the necessary repairs or replacement to restore the lamp to working
38 order before moving the vehicle, in which event, there is no
39 violation of this Title.

40 (m) Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that
41 has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety
42 devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be
43 deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

44 (cf: P.L.1964, c.281, s.1)

45

46 2. R.S.39:3-66 is amended to read as follows:

1 39:3-66. All lamps, reflectors and other illuminating devices
2 **【required by this article】** equipped on a motor vehicle shall be kept
3 clean and in good working order and, as far as practicable, shall be
4 mounted in such a manner as to reduce the likelihood of their being
5 obscured by mud or dust thrown up by the wheels.
6 (cf: R.S.39:3-66)

7

8 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the second month
9 following enactment.

10

11

12

STATEMENT

13

14 This bill requires that all lamps or other illuminating devices
15 equipped on a motor vehicle be kept in good working order.

16 Under current law, only the minimum number of lighting devices
17 required by statute to be installed on a motor vehicle must be kept
18 in working order. For example, the Motor Vehicle Code (Title 39)
19 requires that vehicles have at least two brake lights; therefore, under
20 current law, only two brake lights must be functional,
21 notwithstanding that many newer cars have three or more brake
22 lights.

23 This bill is in response to a recent Appellate Division case (State
24 v. McDade) where the defendant moved to suppress evidence of a
25 driving while intoxicated offense on the grounds that the police
26 officer had no legal basis for stopping the vehicle because, even
27 though a light was out, the car still had the minimum required
28 number of working lights. This bill would make it an equipment
29 violation if any lighting device installed on a vehicle is not in
30 working order.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 354

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

The Assembly Transportation, Public Works and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 354.

As reported, this bill requires that all lamps or other illuminating devices equipped on a motor vehicle be kept in good working order.

Current law requires that the minimum number of lighting devices required by statute be kept in working order. For example, motor vehicles are only required to have two brake lights; therefore, under current law, only two brake lights must be functional, notwithstanding that many newer cars have three or more brake lights.

This bill would make it an equipment violation if any lighting device installed on a vehicle were not in working order.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2012-2013 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 354

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Assemblymen GUSCIORA and CHIUSANO)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 17, 2012

Under current law, motor vehicles are required to have two working brake lights, notwithstanding that many newer passenger vehicles have one or two additional high-mounted brake lights. Because of this two brake light requirement, the operator of a newer passenger vehicle cannot be cited for an equipment violation if his or her high-mounted brake light is not functioning.

Assembly Bill No. 354 would make it an equipment violation if any lighting device installed on a vehicle was not in working order.

These Assembly amendments clarify that the high-mounted brake lights installed on passenger motor vehicles since September 1, 1985 are to be considered required equipment and must, therefore, be operational and functioning.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 354

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 354 (1R).

As amended and reported, this bill requires that passenger motor vehicles manufactured after September 1, 1985 have a high-mounted rear stoplight installed on the vertical centerline of the vehicle. Under current law, all passenger motor vehicle lamps required by law are to be operational, but passenger motor vehicles are only required to be equipped with two rear brake lights. This bill also makes it an equipment violation if the high-mounted rear stoplight is not operational.

The committee amended the bill to: update cross-references to existing statutes; use the written word for numbers less than 10, as is the preferred practice; and update a reference to the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles to the correct title of Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 354(1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 3028 which was also amended and reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE, No. 3028

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 7, 2013

Sponsored by:

Senator NICHOLAS J. SACCO

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires all lamps and lighting devices on motor vehicles be kept in working order.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



S3028 SACCO

2

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicle lighting, amending R.S.39:3-61
2 and supplementing chapter 3 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

3

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

6

7 1. R.S.39:3-61 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-61. (a) Every motor vehicle other than a motor cycle and
9 other than a motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped on the front
10 with at least 2 headlamps, an equal number at each side, and with 2
11 turn signals, one on each side; and on the rear with 2 tail lamps, 2 or
12 more stop lamps, as prescribed by section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)
13 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), 2 turn signals and 2
14 reflectors, one of each at each side; except that a passenger vehicle
15 manufactured before July 2, 1954, and registered in this State may
16 be equipped with one stop lamp, one reflector and one tail lamp and
17 is not required to be equipped with turn signals. In addition, every
18 such vehicle shall be equipped with adequate license plate
19 illumination, and with one or more lamps capable of providing
20 parking light as required in section 39:3-62. Turn signals are not
21 required on the rear of a truck tractor equipped with double-faced
22 turn signals on or near the front and so constructed and located as to
23 be visible to passing drivers.

24 (b) Every truck tractor manufactured after January 1, 1965, shall
25 be equipped on the front with 2 clearance lamps, one at each side,
26 and 3 identification lamps, which shall be in addition to the lamps
27 provided for in paragraph (a) of this section. Where the cab is not
28 more than 42 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the
29 center of the cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement
30 for front identification lamps. Reflectors required on the rear of a
31 truck tractor may be located on the rear of the cab, one at each side.

32 (c) Every truck 80 inches or more in over-all width except a
33 dump truck and except a truck 80 inches or more in over-all width
34 which is not in excess of 25 feet in over-all length and
35 manufactured prior to January 1, 1965, shall be equipped with the
36 following lamps and reflectors in addition to those provided for in
37 paragraph (a) of this section;

38 On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3
39 identification lamps except that where the cab is not more than 42
40 inches wide at the front roof line, a single lamp at the center of the
41 cab shall be deemed to comply with the requirement for front
42 identification lamps;

43 On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and 3
44 identification lamps;

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.

S3028 SACCO

1 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
2 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
3 rear.

4 (d) Every trailer or semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with
5 2 tail lamps, 2 stop lamps, 2 turn signals and 2 reflectors, one of
6 each at each side, and with adequate license plate illumination.

7 (e) Every trailer or semitrailer 80 inches or more in over-all
8 width, except a dump truck trailer, a dump truck semitrailer or a
9 converter dolly, shall be equipped with the following lamps and
10 reflectors in addition to those provided for in paragraph (d) of this
11 section:

12 On the front, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side;

13 On the rear, 2 clearance lamps, one at each side, and except with
14 respect to cable reel trailers, 3 identification lamps;

15 On each side, one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near
16 the front, and one side-marker lamp and one reflector at or near the
17 rear; and on any such vehicle 30 feet or more in length, at least one
18 additional side-marker lamp at optional height and at least one
19 additional reflector, the additional lamp (or lamps) and reflector (or
20 reflectors) to be at or near the center or at approximately uniform
21 spacing in the length of the vehicle.

22 (f) Every pole trailer shall be equipped as follows:

23 On the rear, 2 tail lamps, one at each side; 2 stop lamps, one at
24 each side; 2 turn signals, one at each side; 2 reflectors, one at each
25 side, placed to indicate extreme width of the pole trailer; 3
26 identification lamps mounted on the vertical center line of the pole
27 trailer or in lieu thereof mounted on the vertical center line of the
28 rear of the cab of the truck tractor drawing the pole trailer and
29 higher than the load being transported.

30 On each side, one amber side-marker lamp at or near the front of
31 the load; one amber reflector at or near the front of the load; on the
32 rearmost support for the load, one combination marker lamp
33 showing amber to the front and red to the rear and side, mounted to
34 indicate maximum width of the pole trailer; on the rearmost support
35 for the load, one red reflector.

36 Nothing in this subsection (f) shall apply to a single axle,
37 skeleton frame trailer, not exceeding 2,500 pounds net weight and
38 not exceeding 80 inches in over-all width which is designed to
39 transport poles and is owned by a public utility as defined in section
40 48:2-13 of the Revised Statutes except that such vehicles shall be
41 required to have on the rear, 2 tail lamps, one at each side; stop
42 lamps, one at each side; 2 turn signals, one at each side; 2
43 reflectors, one at each side on each side; and one amber side-marker
44 lamp at or near the front of the load.

45 (g) Every converter dolly not permanently attached to a
46 semitrailer shall be equipped on the rear with one stop lamp, one
47 tail lamp, 2 reflectors, one at each side, and adequate license plate
48 illumination. These lamps need be lighted only when the converter

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1 dolly is being towed singly by another vehicle. A "converter dolly"
2 is a vehicle with a fifth wheel lower half or equivalent mechanism,
3 the attachment of which converts a semitrailer to a trailer.

4 (h) Every motor cycle shall be equipped with at least one and
5 not more than 2 headlamps, one tail lamp, one stop lamp, at least
6 one reflector on the rear, adequate license plate illumination and, if
7 a side car or any other extension is attached to the side thereof, one
8 lamp located on the outside limit of the attachment capable of
9 displaying white light to the front.

10 (i) Required lamps and reflectors shall be of a type approved by
11 the director. Turn signals shall be Class A Type 1 lamps except that
12 on passenger cars, and on commercial vehicles less than 80 inches
13 in over-all width they may be Class B lamps. Reflectors shall be
14 Class A reflex reflectors except that on passenger cars they may be
15 Class B reflex reflectors.

16 (j) Required headlamps, tail lamps, clearance lamps,
17 identification lamps and side-marker lamps shall be lighted and
18 adequate license plate illumination displayed whenever the vehicle
19 other than a converter dolly is upon a highway when lighted lamps
20 are required except when parked and exhibiting lights as provided
21 for in section 39:3-62 or when stopped and displaying emergency
22 warning lights or devices as provided for in section 39:3-64 or
23 section 39:3-54. Lamps on a converter dolly shall be lighted as
24 provided for in paragraph (g) of this section. Turn signals on the
25 side toward which a vehicle turn is made shall be flashed to indicate
26 the turning movement. Stop lamps shall be lighted as provided in
27 section 9 of this act.

28 (k) License plate illumination will be deemed to be adequate
29 when either a tail lamp or a separate lamp is so constructed and
30 placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate
31 on a vehicle and render it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet
32 to the rear. Any lamp or lamps providing such illumination shall be
33 lighted whenever the headlamps or other driving lamps are lighted.

34 (l) Whenever a law enforcement officer detects a motor vehicle
35 with a lamp not in working order, the driver may be permitted to
36 park the vehicle temporarily at some safe place nearby and make
37 the necessary repairs or replacement to restore the lamp to working
38 order before moving the vehicle, in which event, there is no
39 violation of this Title.

40 (m) Every motorbus manufactured before January 1, 1960, that
41 has been inspected and approved as to construction and safety
42 devices by the Board of Public Utility Commissioners shall be
43 deemed in compliance with the requirements of this section.

44 (cf: P.L.1964, c.281, s.1)

45

46 2. (New section) Every motor vehicle, other than a
47 motorcycle, shall be equipped on the rear with at least two
48 stoplights, one at each side of the vertical centerline at the same

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1 height and as far apart as practical, except that a passenger vehicle
2 manufactured before July 2, 1954, may be equipped with one
3 stoplight.

4 All passenger automobiles manufactured on or after September
5 1, 1985, shall, in addition, be equipped with a high-mounted rear
6 stoplight on the vertical centerline.

7 All multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and modified buses
8 whose overall width is less than 80 inches and whose GVWR is
9 10,000 pounds or less, manufactured on or after September 1, 1993,
10 shall, in addition, be equipped with a high-mounted rear stoplight
11 on the vertical centerline.

12 All multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks, and modified buses
13 whose overall width is less than 80 inches and whose GVWR is
14 10,000 pounds or less and whose vertical centerline, when the
15 vehicle is viewed from the rear, is not located on a fixed body panel
16 but separate one or two moveable body section, such as doors, and
17 which lacks sufficient space to install a single high-mounted
18 stoplight on the centerline above such body sections, and which is
19 manufactured on or after September 1, 1993, shall, in addition, be
20 equipped with two high-mounted rear stoplights.

21 All stoplights shall be of a type meeting the standards of the
22 United States Department of Transportation or, for motor vehicles
23 manufactured prior to the adoption of such standards, the standards
24 of the Society of Automotive Engineers, and approved by the chief
25 administrator.

26

27 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the second month
28 following enactment.

29

30

31

STATEMENT

32

33 This bill requires that all lamps or other illuminating devices
34 equipped on a motor vehicle be kept in good working order.

35 Current law requires that the minimum number of lighting
36 devices required by statute be kept in working order. For example,
37 motor vehicles are only required to have two brake lights; therefore,
38 under current law, only two brake lights are required to be
39 functional, notwithstanding that many newer cars have three or
40 more brake lights.

41 This bill makes it an equipment violation if any lighting device
42 installed on a vehicle is not in working order.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3028

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2013

The Senate Transportation, Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3028.

As amended and reported, this bill requires that passenger motor vehicles manufactured after September 1, 1985 have a high-mounted rear stoplight installed on the vertical centerline of the vehicle. Under current law, all passenger motor vehicle lamps required by law are to be operational, but passenger motor vehicles are only required to be equipped with two rear brake lights. This bill also makes it an equipment violation if the high-mounted rear stoplight is not operational.

The committee amended the bill to: update cross-references to existing statutes; use the written word for numbers less than 10, as is the preferred practice; and update a reference to the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles to the correct title of Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

As amended and reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 3028 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 354(1R) which was also amended and reported by the committee on this date.