

13 1G-1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST  
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(Fire & emergency sirens--  
location)

NJSA: 13:1G-1

LAWS OF: 1991 CHAPTER: 475

BILL NO: S3786

SPONSOR(S): Rand

DATE INTRODUCED: December 16, 1991

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE: County & Municipal government

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: January 13, 1992

SENATE: January 13, 1992

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 18, 1992

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

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P.L.1991, CHAPTER 475, approved January 18, 1992  
1991 Senate No. 3786

1 AN ACT concerning emergency sirens and supplementing  
2 P.L.1971, c.418 (C.13:1G-1 et seq.).

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

6 1. a. A siren or other sound emitting device used to alert  
7 firefighters, other emergency services personnel or the public of  
8 a fire or other emergency shall be located no closer than 500 feet  
9 from any school, school yard or playground serving persons  
10 younger than 16 years of age.

11 b. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection and Energy  
12 shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the  
13 purposes of this act pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure  
14 Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

15 2. This act shall take effect 180 days following enactment,  
16 with the exception of subsection b. of section 1 which shall take  
17 effect immediately.

18  
19  
20 STATEMENT

21  
22 The purpose of this bill is to protect children from the adverse  
23 effects of extremely loud and unexpected noise. It requires that  
24 sirens used to alert firefighters, emergency service personnel and  
25 the public of a fire or other emergency be located no closer than  
26 500 feet from a school, school yard or playground. The  
27 close-range sounds emitted by these devices have been known to  
28 terrify and even damage the hearing of young children.

29 A failure to comply with the provisions of this bill would be  
30 subject to penalties provided under the "Noise Control Act of  
31 1971," which the bill supplements. Violators would be subject to  
32 a court injunction and a monetary penalty of up to \$3,000. The  
33 bill allows six months for the relocation of sirens that are not in  
34 compliance.

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37 PUBLIC SAFETY

38  
39 Sets minimum distance for sirens from schools.

SENATE, No. 3786  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 1991

By Senator RAND

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PUBLIC SAFETY

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SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3786

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 9, 1992

The Senate County and Municipal Government Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3786.

Senate Bill No. 3786 protects children from the adverse effects of extremely loud and unexpected noise. It requires that sirens used to alert firefighters, emergency service personnel and the public of a fire or other emergency be located no closer than 500 feet from a school, school yard or playground. The close-range sounds emitted by these devices have been known to terrify and even damage the hearing of young children.

A failure to comply with the provisions of this bill would be subject to penalties provided under the "Noise Control Act of 1971," which the bill supplements. Violators would be subject to a court injunction and a monetary penalty of up to \$3,000. The bill allows six months for the relocation of sirens that are not in compliance.