

LEGISLATIVE NOTES ON R.S. 39:4-129
(Action in Case of Accident)

COPY NO. 1

Particular reference to Paragraph 1, "damage to property".

L. 1921, Chapter 208, § 14 (4) - A183

Phraseology of this law somewhat different from present statute.
Introduced February 22 by Mr. Tattersall.
Amended during passage (Sect. 14 (4) not altered).
Statement on bill:

"This bill embodies the recommendations of the Motor Vehicle Traffic Commission created by Joint Resolution No. 2 of the 1920 Legislature. The changes sought to be effected will be found in the Commission's report. All inconsistent legislation is to be repealed by another bill".

The report of this Commission made no mention of the matter of automobile accidents involving injury or death to person or damage to property.

L. 1923, Chapter 136 - S111

No relevance to particular phrase.
Concerned with driver under influence of intoxicating liquors or drugs.
Introduced January 22 by Mr. Pierson.
Not amended during passage.
Statement on bill:

"This bill proposed to amend subdivision three of section fourteen by incorporating therein the place where defendant is to be imprisoned.

A number of appeals have been based upon this omission from the present statute and the necessity of curbing intoxicated driving is so apparent that the amendment proposed hereby has been prepared by the Attorney-General at the request of the Department of Motor Vehicles in the belief that it will lessen the number of appeals that are now being taken to arrest judgment."

L. 1924, Chapter 160, sect. 1 [14 (4)] - S25

Minor change to paragraph in question.
Introduced January 8 by Mr. Blackwell.
Not amended during passage.
Statement on bill: (copy of bill and statement enclosed).

- L. 1924, Chapter 211, § 6 - S145
No change to phrasing in question.
Introduced January 21 by Mr. Agans.
Amended during passage.
Statement on bill (copy of statement enclosed).

- L. 1926, Chapter 152 - S79
Introduced January 25 by Mr. Simpson.
Amended during passage.
Statement on bill (copy of bill and statement enclosed).

- L. 1928, Chapter 281- Special Session A1.
Introduced June 4 by Mr. Wise.
Not amended during passage.
No statement on bill.

- L. 1931, Chapter 171 - A171
Minor change to particular paragraph: penalty fines are enumerated
by words and figures.
Introduced February 2 by Mr. Grimm.
Amended during passage.
Statement on bill (copy of part of bill and statement enclosed).

- L. 1932, Chapter 36 - A350
Introduced February 8 by Mr. Wise.
Not amended during passage.
Statement on bill (Copy of bill and statement enclosed).

- L. 1932, Chapter 89 - A374
Phrasing is changed; additional stipulations in particular
paragraph added.
Introduced February 8 by Mr. Wise.
Amended during passage.
Statement on bill (copy of bill, amendments, and statement enclosed).

- L. 1940, Chapter 147 - A218
Introduced March 25 by Mr. Bertoni.
Not amended during passage.
Statement on bill (copy of bill and statement enclosed).

We could not find any supplementary reports or hearings on these laws.

CK/PC L. 1947 - Chap 187 - A846 *No hearings or reports.*
Intro Apr 10 by Bertoni
No statement
Not amended during passage.

L. 1924, C. 160

39-4-129

SENATE, No. 25

(Chapter 208, P. L. 1921, as amended by Chapter 136, P. L. 1923.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 8, 1924.

By Mr. BLACKWELL.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

AN Act to amend an act entitled "An act defining motor vehicles and providing for the registration of the same and the licensing of the drivers thereof; fixing rules regulating the use and speed of motor vehicles; fixing the amount of license and registration fees; prescribing and regulating process and the service thereof and proceedings for the violation of the provisions of the act and penalties for said violations," approved April eighth, nineteen hundred and twenty-one.

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

1 1. Section fourteen of the act of which this act is amendatory be and the same
2 hereby is amended to read as follows:

3 14. (1) No person shall operate or use any motor vehicle without the permis-
4 sion of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not more
5 than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or both for a first
6 violation; for a second violation imprisoned not more than ten years; and for each
7 subsequent violation imprisoned not more than fifteen years.

8 (2) No person shall interfere or tamper with a motor vehicle or put in motion
9 the engine of such vehicle while it is standing, without the permission of the owner.
10 Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than ten nor more
11 than fifty dollars for a first offense, and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined

PROPERTY OF
NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY

185 W. State Street
Trenton, N. J.

12 not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment of not more
13 than thirty days or both.

14 (3) No person shall operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of in-
15 toxicating liquor or any narcotic or habit-producing drugs, or permit any person
16 who may be under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic or habit-producing
17 drugs to operate any motor vehicle owned by him or in his custody or control. Any
18 person who shall violate this provision shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by
19 an imprisonment of not less than thirty days and not more than six months in the
20 common jail or workhouse of the county wherein the offense was committed, and shall
21 forthwith forfeit his right to operate a motor vehicle over the highways of this
22 State; and no new license shall be issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to
23 any person convicted of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of in-
24 toxicating liquor or narcotic or habit-producing drugs until one year after the date
25 of his or her conviction if for a first offense, or five years after any subsequent con-
26 viction.

27 (4) Every person operating a motor vehicle who shall knowingly cause injury to
28 any other person or to property in the possession or use of such person shall at
29 once stop and ascertain the extent of the injury and render such assistance as may be
30 needed, and, upon request, give his name, address, and operator's license and registra-
31 tion number to the person injured or to any officer or witness of the injury. Any per-
32 son who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more
33 than one hundred dollars for the first offense, and, for any subsequent offense, not
34 less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred dollars.

35 (5) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any public highway for a
36 wager or in a race or for the purpose of making a speed record. Any person who
37 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one
38 hundred dollars for the first offense, and, for any subsequent offense, not less than
39 one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars.

40 (6) No person shall operate any commercial motor vehicle on any public high-
41 way or bridge when the combined weight of vehicle and load exceeds thirty thousand

42 pounds, without a written permit from the State Highway Commission which shall
43 prescribe the conditions under which the same shall be operated. Any person who
44 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more
45 than five hundred dollars.

46 (7) Any person who shall leave any motor vehicle, with its engine running,
47 stationary on the highway and unoccupied by a person able to control the same, and
48 without setting the hand brake in such manner as to prevent such vehicle from mov-
49 ing, shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars for each
50 offense.

51 (8) No person to whom an operator's license has been refused, or whose oper-
52 ator's license has been suspended or revoked, shall personally operate any motor ve-
53 hicle during the period of such refusal, suspension or revocation. Any person who
54 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hun-
55 dred dollars.

56 (9) No person shall counterfeit any number plate or marker, nor make any
57 substitute or temporary marker. Any person who shall violate this provision shall
58 be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars.

59 (10) No person shall use any marker other than the one issued to him by the
60 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, except as provided in subdivision four of section
61 ten. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-
62 five nor more than fifty dollars.

63 (11) No person shall loan any operator's license issued by the commissioner,
64 for use by any person other than the person named in said license, nor shall loan any
65 marker or certificate of registration, issued by the commissioner, for use on any other
66 car other than that of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provision shall
67 be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars.

68 (12) No person owning a motor vehicle registered as provided for in this act,
69 shall allow such vehicle to be operated by a nonlicensed driver. Any person who
70 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hun-
71 dred dollars.

72 (13) Any person, except when acting under the authority of the governing
 73 body of any municipality, who shall throw, place, or deposit any glass or other sharp
 74 or cutting substance or any other injurious or cutting substance in or upon any of
 75 the public highways of this State shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars or
 76 imprisoned not more than one year, or both, for the first violation; for the second
 77 violation, imprisoned not more than ten years; and for each subsequent violation, im-
 78 prisoned not more than fifteen years.

79 (14) Any person or persons making any misstatement of facts in his or their
 80 applications for registrations of a motor vehicle or driver's license, or give a fictitious
 81 address, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof
 82 shall be subject to a fine of not less than two hundred or more than five hundred dol-
 83 lars, or imprisonment for one year, or both, at the discretion of the court; and the
 84 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon proper evidence of such misstatement,
 85 or fictitious address, revoke the registration of the motor vehicle, or the driver's
 86 license, as the case may be. It shall be the duty of the registered owner of every
 87 motor vehicle and of every licensed operator to notify the Commissioner of Motor
 88 Vehicles of any change in his or her place of residence, within one week after such
 89 change is made.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

L. 1924, C. 160

STATEMENT.

This bill provides for the commitment of intoxicated automobile drivers to the county jail or workhouse of the county wherein the offense is committed. By chapter 136, P. L. 1923, it is provided the defendant upon conviction should be committed to the county jail. In some counties of the State, however, where a workhouse is maintained, it is felt that by committing the defendant to the workhouse it may arouse the motoring public to the great seriousness of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor; hence this proposed amendment has the endorsement of the Motor Vehicle Department of New Jersey.

SENATE, No. 145

(Chapter 208, P. L. 1921, page 613.)

(Chapter 99, P. L. 1923, page 182.)

(Chapter 108, P. L. 1922, page 201.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 21, 1924.

By Mr. AGANS.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act defining motor vehicles and providing for the registration of the same and the licensing of the drivers thereof, fixing rules regulating the use and speed of motor vehicles, fixing the amount of license and registration fees, prescribing and regulating process and the service thereof and proceedings for the violation of the provisions of the act and penalties for said violation," approved April eighth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty one, as amended by an act approved March nineteenth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty three, and as further amended by an act approved March nineteenth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty three.

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

1 1. Section one of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 1. The terms used in this act shall be construed as follows, unless other mean-
4 ing is clearly apparent from the language or context, or unless such construction is
5 inconsistent with the manifest intention of the Legislature.

6 (1) The term "motor vehicle" include all vehicles propelled otherwise than
7 by muscular power, excepting such vehicles as run only upon rails or tracks.

8 (2) The term "motor cycle" shall include all motor operated vehicles of the bi-
9 cycle or tricycle type, whether the motive power be a part thereof or attached

10 thereto, and having pedals and saddle with driver sitting astride, or a platform on
11 which said driver stands.

12 (3) The term "automobile" includes all motor vehicles except motor cycles.

13 (4) The term "omnibus" as used in this act shall include all motor vehicles used
14 for the transportation of passengers for hire, except such vehicles as are used to
15 transport children to and from school outside of a city, provided such motor vehicle
16 is not otherwise used in the transportation of passengers for hire.

17 (5) "Commercial motor vehicles" as used in this act shall include every type of
18 motor driven vehicle used for commercial purposes on the highways, such as the
19 transportation of foods, wares, or merchandise, excepting such vehicles as are run
20 only upon rails or tracks [.] and vehicles of the passenger car type used for touring
21 purposes or the carrying of farm products and milk as the case may be.

22 (6) The term "motor-drawn vehicles" as used in this act shall include trailers,
23 semitrailers, or any other type or vehicle drawn by a motor-driven vehicle.

24 (7) The term "tractor" as used in this act is a motor-driven vehicle de-
25 signed for drawing other vehicles but having no provision for carrying loads inde-
26 pendently.

27 (8) The term "trailer" as used in this act is a vehicle of more than two wheels
28 designed to carry a load wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a
29 motor-driven vehicle, except those running exclusively on tracks.

30 (9) The term "semitrailer" as used in this act is a two-wheeled vehicle without
31 motor power, drawn by a motor-driven vehicle, and so designed and used in connec-
32 tion with a self-propelled vehicle that a considerable part of its own weight rests upon
33 the towing vehicle.

34 (10) The term "manufacturer" as used in this act is an individual, partner-
35 ship, or corporation engaged in the business of manufacturing or assembling motor
36 vehicles, who will, under normal business conditions during the year, manufacture
37 or assemble at least ten new motor vehicles.

38 (11) The term "dealer" as used in this act, shall include every person, firm,
39 or corporation actively engaged in the business of buying, selling, or exchanging
40 motor vehicles or motor cycles and who has an established place of business.

41 (12) The word "magistrate" shall be deemed and understood to mean and in-

42 clude all justices of the peace, judges of the city criminal courts, police justices, re-
43 corders, mayors, and other officers having the power of a committing magistrate

1 2. Section two of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 2. Automobile fire engines and such self-propelling vehicles as are used neither
4 for the conveyance of persons for hire, pleasure, or business, nor for the trans-
5 portation of freight, such as steam road rollers, and traction engines, are excepted
6 from the provisions of this act. No fee shall be charged for the registration of mo-
7 tor vehicles owned by the United States, the State of New Jersey, or by any city,
8 borough, incorporated town, township, or county, duly authorized (volunteer) fire
9 department, hospital, humane society, any anti-cruelty society in the State, or by the
10 American Red Cross, providing such vehicles are not used for pleasure or hire,
11 but all such vehicles shall be registered and shall display number plates as is provided
12 for in this act.

1 3. Section seven of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended
2 to read as follows:

3 7. (1) Brakes. Every motor vehicle of more than ten horsepower, operated in
4 or on any highway, shall be provided with at least two brakes, powerful in action
5 and separated from each other, of which one brake must act directly on the drive
6 wheels or on parts of the mechanism which are firmly connected with said wheels.
7 Each of the two brakes shall suffice alone to stop the motor vehicle within a proper
8 distance. One of the two brakes shall be so arranged as to be operated with the
9 feet; *provided, however*, that on automobiles not exceeding ten horsepower, one
10 brake shall be deemed to be sufficient. Every motorcycle shall be provided with at
11 least one brake, which may be operated by hand or foot.

12 (2) Signaling device. Every motor vehicle must be equipped with a horn or
13 signaling device, and the operator of the same shall give reasonable warning of his
14 approach whenever necessary to insure the safety of other users of the highway, and
15 before passing any vehicle he may overtake, or pedestrian using any part of the high-
16 way other than the sidewalk, also at curves and intersecting highways where the
17 view of approaching vehicles is obscured; but the horn, bell, or other signaling
18 device shall not be sounded unnecessarily.

19 (3) Lighting devices. Every automobile shall carry, during the period from
20 thirty minutes after sunset to thirty minutes before sunrise, and whenever fog ren-
21 ders it impossible to see a long distance, at least two lighted lamps showing white
22 or yellow tinted lights, visible at least two hundred and fifty feet in the direction
23 toward which said automobile is proceeding; and shall also exhibit a red light visible
24 from the rear; the rays of such rear light shall shine upon the number plate carried
25 on the rear of such vehicle in such manner as to render the numerals thereof visible
26 for at least fifty feet in the direction from which the motor vehicle is proceeding.
27 No automobile shall be used upon the public highway of this State which is equipped
28 with a lamp or more than **[twenty-four]** twenty-one candlepower **[unless a greater**
29 **candlepower shall be permitted under certificate issued by the commissioner]**,
30 which, when lighted, is capable of projecting direct rays at a greater height than a
31 parallel of three and one half feet from the ground; *provided, however,* that any
32 lamp which has attached thereto any device which cannot be operated from the
33 driver's seat, and which when so attached, renders said lamp incapable, when lighted,
34 of projecting direct rays at a greater height than a parallel of three and one half
35 feet from the ground, if such lamp, when lighted, is not capable of producing a
36 dazzling light or glare; *and provided, further,* that the use of "spotlights" for driving
37 purposes is prohibited, and that the use of such "spotlights" is hereby confined to
38 reading of intersecting highway signs and house numbers. In order that this section
39 may be operative without hardship to the owners and operators of motor vehicles,
40 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is hereby especially authorized to pass upon
41 any lighting device and upon the equipment of any car, and shall for this purpose
42 examine all lighting devices submitted to him; and if, in his judgment, such light-
43 ing devices, when properly applied to a motor vehicle licensed under the authority
44 of this act, shall conform to the provisions of this act, he shall issue a certificate to
45 the manufacturer, owner, or user of such device, as the case may be, that the same
46 is in compliance with this section; such certificate of approval may be revoked by the
47 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, when in his opinion the lighting device described
48 in said certificate fails to comply with the provisions of this section, by giving
49 thirty days' notice in writing, of such revocation to the manufacturers of said light-
50 ing device. Every automobile shall show at least one white or yellow-tinted light

51 when standing, such white or yellow-tinted light to be on the side of the automobile
52 nearest to the center of the road and shall display at least one red light to the rear
53 when standing.

54 Every motor cycle shall carry during the period from thirty minutes after sun-
55 set to thirty minutes before sunrise, and whenever fog renders it impossible to see
56 a long distance, at least one lighted lamp, showing a white or yellow light visible
57 at least two hundred feet in the direction toward which the motor cycle is proceed-
58 ing; and shall carry upon the rear of such motor cycle a red light, the rays of which
59 shall shine upon the number plate which shall be fixed to the rear mudguard. Any
60 motor cycle having more than two wheels or with side car attachment shall have
61 two white lights to the front, as provided in this section.

62 (4) Mufflers. Every motor vehicle shall have, and every driver of such motor
63 vehicle shall use, devices to prevent excessive noise, annoying smoke, and the escape
64 of gases and steam, as well as the falling out of embers or residue from the fuel,
65 and all exhaust pipes carrying exhaust gases from the engine shall be directed
66 parallel to the ground or slightly upward. Devices known as "muffler cut outs" shall
67 not be used within the State of New Jersey.

68 (5) Mirrors. Any motor vehicle that is so constructed or covered as to pre-
69 vent the operator thereof from having a sufficient view of the traffic following and
70 at the sides of such vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror or some device that will
71 show the driver the road to the rear and the road to the side.

72 (6) Chains. Motor vehicle tires may be fitted with chains when roads, streets,
73 and highways are slippery because of rain, snow, ice, oil, or manner of construction;
74 *provided, however,* that no chains shall be used at any time on the improved high-
75 ways when the same are dry, or their condition does not make such use necessary
76 for the safety of life or property.

1 4. Section nine of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 9. (1) Every resident of this State, and every nonresident whose automobile
4 or motor cycle shall be driven in this State except as is hereinafter provided, shall be
5 fore using such vehicle on the public highways, register the same, and no motor ve-
6 hicle or motor cycle shall be driven unless so registered. Every registration shall ex-

7 pire and the certificate thereof become void on the thirty-first day of December of
8 each year; and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue licenses for the fol-
9 lowing year on and after [December first] November fifteenth of each year, such
10 license so issued not to be used until the thirty-first day of December of the year
11 preceding the year for which such license is issued.

12 (2) Such registration shall be made in the following manner:

13 A statement in writing shall be made to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or
14 his lawful agent, containing the name and address of such owner, together with a de-
15 scription of the character of such motor vehicle or motor cycle, including the name
16 of the maker and the manufacturer's number and the motor number. Such state-
17 ment shall be submitted on forms prepared by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
18 and shall be sworn to by the applicant before any one authorized to take acknowledg-
19 ments. Thereupon, the said commissioner shall have power to grant a registration
20 certificate to the owner of any motor vehicle, application for registration having
21 properly been made and the fee therefor paid, and the vehicle being of a type that
22 complies with the requirements of this act. But it shall be lawful for the Commis-
23 sioner of Motor Vehicles to refuse registrations to any vehicle that in his estimation
24 is not a proper vehicle to be used upon public roads and highways of this State.

25 (3) The holder of any registration certificate issued by the Commissioner of
26 Motor Vehicles, when requested to do so by any motor vehicle inspector, police
27 officer or magistrate, may thereby determine the correctness of the said certificate
28 as the same relates to the registration number plates of the automobile or the motor
29 cycle for which the said certificate was issued.

30 (4) Each owner having a residence outside of the State shall file with the
31 Secretary of State a duly executed instrument, constituting the Secretary of State and
32 his successors in office the true and lawful attorney upon whom all original process
33 in any action or legal proceeding caused by the operation of his registered
34 motor vehicle or motor cycle, within this State, against such owner may be served,
35 and therein shall agree that any original process against such owner shall be of the
36 same force and effect as if served on such owner within this State; the service of such
37 process shall be made by leaving a copy of the same in the office of the Secretary
38 of State, with a service fee of two dollars to be taxed on the plaintiff's costs of suit.

40 Said Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall forthwith notify such owner of such
41 service by letter directed to him at the post office address stated in his application

1 5. Section eleven of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 11. (1) Every manufacturer of automobiles residing and having his principal
4 place of business within this State, instead of registering each automobile owned
5 or controlled by him, may make application, as hereinafter provided in this act for
6 a registration number, and the written statement, in addition to the matters herein-
7 before contained, shall state that he is a manufacturer; that he desires to use a single
8 number on automobiles owned or controlled by him while being used for demonstra-
9 tion purposes or for shop purposes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may
10 thereupon, if satisfied of the facts stated in the application, issue a certificate as
11 herein set forth assigning the same a number, which certificate shall contain a
12 statement that the same is issued to the applicant as a manufacturer. One cer-
13 tificate shall cover and be valid for five or not more than five automobiles of
14 said manufacturer at one time while under his control. The Commissioner of Motor
15 Vehicles shall provide five sets of identification marks of the general style and kind
16 provided for motor vehicle registrations in this act, and such identification marks
17 shall not be used on any vehicle not actually owned by said manufacturer or oper-
18 ated either by him or his duly authorized agent.

19 All such automobiles shall be registered and registered under such general number,
20 and in addition to the registration number displayed on the front and rear of the
21 car, as hereafter provided, there shall be added the letter "M" of equal size and
22 prominence. The annual fee for such manufacturer's registration shall be five
23 dollars for each car so authorized to be operated under each registration number,
24 and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue registration certificates in dupli-
25 cate equal to the number of cars not exceeding five authorized to be operated under
26 the said registration number.

27 (2) Every dealer in automobiles or motor cycles doing business in this State,
28 instead of registering each automobile or motor cycle owned or controlled by him,
29 may make application as hereinafter provided in this act, for a registration num-
30 ber, and the written statement, in addition to the matters hereinafter contained,

31 shall state that he is a dealer; that he desires to use a single number on automobiles
32 or motor cycles owned or controlled by him while being operated for purposes of his
33 business as a dealer [or for his personal use, but] and not for hire. The Com-
34 missioner of Motor Vehicles may thereupon, if satisfied of the facts stated in said
35 application, issue certificate as herein set forth, assigning the same a number, which
36 certificate shall contain a statement that the same was issued to the applicant as a
37 dealer. One certificate shall cover and be valid for the use of not more than five
38 automobiles or motor cycles of said dealer at one time while under his control. The
39 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide five sets of identification marks of the
40 general style provided for motor vehicle registration in this act, and such identifica-
41 tion marks shall not be used on any vehicle not actually owned by said dealer or
42 operated either by him or his duly authorized agent. All such automobiles or motor
43 cycles shall be regarded as registered under such general number, and in addition to
44 the registration number displayed on the front and rear of the car or motor cycle as
45 hereafter provided, there shall be added the letter "D" of equal size and prominence.
46 The annual fee for such dealer's registration shall be five dollars for each car or
47 motor cycle so authorized to be operated under such registration number, and the
48 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue registration certificates in duplicate
49 equal to the number of cars or motor cycles not less than five sets for automobile
50 dealers nor less than three sets for motor cycle dealers authorized to be operated
51 under said registration number.

52 No person or persons shall use or permit the use of the plates issued under a
53 dealer's registrations on any motor vehicle other than those owned by such dealer
54 and operated by such dealer or his employees or for any purpose other than [the
55 personal use of the dealer, or] demonstrating said vehicle to a prospective purchaser
56 or testing or removing same from storage place, shipping point or place of delivery
57 before or after sale; nor shall any dealer loan dealer's plates to any person or persons
58 whatsoever, for display upon any motor vehicle not exclusively owned by said
59 dealer.

60 Dealer's plates marked "In Transit" and corresponding in number to the
61 numerals displayed on the dealer's registration may be issued by the Commissioner
62 of Motor Vehicles on application from any dealer. Such plates shall be used solely

63 in the transportation of motor vehicles from the factory to the place of business of
64 the dealer within this State and for no other purpose whatsoever. The cost of such
65 dealer's plates shall be two dollars for each set.

66 (3) For each vehicle used as an omnibus for the transportation of passengers
67 for hire, the applicant shall pay an annual fee of fifteen dollars for vehicles having
68 a carrying capacity of five passengers or less, for each such vehicle having a carry-
69 ing capacity for passengers of not less than six nor more than eight passengers, the
70 annual fee shall be seventeen dollars and fifty cents, for each such vehicle having a
71 carrying capacity for passengers of not less than nine nor more than twelve
72 passengers, the annual fee shall be twenty dollars, for each such vehicle having a
73 carrying capacity for passengers of not less than thirteen or more than seventeen
74 passengers, the annual fee shall be twenty five dollars, for each such vehicle having a
75 carrying capacity for passengers of not less than eighteen nor more than twenty two
76 passengers, the annual fee shall be thirty dollars, for each such vehicle having a
77 carrying capacity for passengers of not less than twenty three nor more than twenty
78 six passengers, the fee shall be thirty five dollars; for each such vehicle having a
79 carrying capacity for passengers of not less than twenty seven nor more than thirty
80 passengers, the fee shall be forty dollars; for each such vehicle having a carrying
81 capacity for passengers in excess of thirty passengers, the applicant shall pay an
82 annual fee of forty dollars, and an additional fee of two dollars for each passenger,
83 measured by carrying capacity, in excess of thirty passengers.

84 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall provide identification marks of the
85 general style and kind provided for motor vehicle registrations, assigning a number
86 to each identification mark, and before each number the letter "O" shall be placed.

87 Every such applicant for an omnibus registration shall make application, setting
88 forth the fact that he is in business for transporting passengers for hire, and the Com-
89 missioner of Motor Vehicles, in satisfaction of the correctness of the statements made
90 in such application, may issue a registration certificate for omnibus license.

91 Nothing in this section shall prohibit the use by an omnibus operator of any
92 automobile duly licensed to him as owner.

93 (4) Commercial motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, tractors. The applicant
94 for registration for automobile commercial vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, and

95 tractors shall pay to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a fee based upon the gross
 96 weight of such vehicle and load, when loaded to its carrying capacity. When the
 97 gross weight of the vehicle and load exceeds the gross weight allowed by law for
 98 the particular size of tires set forth in the application for registration, then such
 99 gross weight of vehicle and load shall be determined according to law upon the size
 100 of tires given in said application. The plates to be used for the commercial motor
 101 vehicles shall display the word "commercial," and the numerals shall be prefixed by
 102 the letter "X"; the trailer plates shall have the letter "T."

103 The fee shall be in accordance with the following table:

104 The gross weight of vehicle and carrying capacity is

105	1,000 pounds or less,	\$10.00
106	1,001 to 2,000 pounds,	12.00
107	2,001 to 3,000 pounds,	15.00
108	3,001 to 4,000 pounds,	20.00
109	4,001 to 5,000 pounds,	24.00
110	5,001 to 6,000 pounds,	27.00
111	6,001 to 7,000 pounds,	30.00
112	7,001 to 8,000 pounds,	33.00
113	8,001 to 9,000 pounds,	36.00
114	9,001 to 10,000 pounds,	39.00
115	10,001 to 11,000 pounds,	42.00
116	11,001 to 12,000 pounds,	45.00
117	12,001 to 13,000 pounds,	48.00
118	13,001 to 14,000 pounds,	51.00
119	14,001 to 15,000 pounds,	54.00
120	15,001 to 16,000 pounds,	57.00
121	16,001 to 17,000 pounds,	60.00
122	17,001 to 18,000 pounds,	63.00
123	18,001 to 19,000 pounds,	66.00
124	19,001 to 20,000 pounds,	69.00
125	20,001 to 21,000 pounds,	72.00
126	21,001 to 22,000 pounds,	75.00

127	22,001 to 23,000 pounds,	78.00
128	23,001 to 24,000 pounds,	81.00
129	24,001 to 25,000 pounds,	84.00
130	25,001 to 26,000 pounds,	87.00
131	26,001 to 27,000 pounds,	90.00
132	27,001 to 28,000 pounds,	93.00
133	28,001 to 29,000 pounds,	96.00
134	29,001 to 30,000 pounds,	99.00

135 *Provided*, that no automobile, commercial vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, or tractor
136 shall be registered by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles unless the same are
137 equipped with rubber tires on all wheels; *and provided, further*, that any person who
138 shall overload or operate any commercial motor vehicle, tractor, trailer, or semi-
139 trailer beyond the gross weight shown in the registration certificate for said vehicle,
140 shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred and
141 fifty dollars for the first offense, and for any subsequent offense, not less than two
142 hundred and fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars [.] , and any person
143 who shall operate an automobile, commercial vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, or
144 tractor not equipped on all wheels with rubber tires shall be fined not less than fifty
145 dollars nor more than one hundred dollars for the first offense and for any sub-
146 sequent offense not less than one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred dollars;
147 *provided, further*, that tractors used for agricultural purposes may be operated over
148 the highways of this State without being equipped with rubber tires under such
149 regulations as shall from time to time be adopted by the Commissioner of Motor
150 Vehicles.

151 (5) Passenger vehicles. The applicant for registration for motor vehicles shall
152 pay to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for each registration a fee of forty cents
153 per horsepower for the rated horsepower of such motor vehicle or the major fraction
154 thereof for the rated horsepower of such motor vehicle up to and including vehicles
155 of a twenty-nine horsepower rating; and all passenger motor vehicles having a
156 rating of thirty horsepower or more shall pay a fee of fifty cents per horsepower or
157 the major fraction thereof.

158 (6) Motor cycles. The applicant for registration for a motor cycle shall pay to

159 the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for each registration a fee of two dollars.

160 (7) Reduction in fee after August first. If application shall be made for the
161 registration of a motor vehicle, commercial motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, tractor
162 or omnibus after the first day of August in any year, the applicant shall be required
163 to pay but one-half the registration fee herein provided for in the class to which
164 such vehicle belongs.

165 (8) Refusal of registration. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may refuse
166 registration in the case of any automobile, commercial motor vehicle, trailer, semi-
167 trailer, tractor, or omnibus, that shall not comply with the requirements of this act
168 or that shall seem to him unsuitable for use on the roads and highways of this
169 State.

170 (9) Certificate issued. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall issue for
171 each automobile so registered a certificate, properly numbered, stating that such
172 motor vehicle or motor cycle is registered in accordance with the law, and shall
173 cause the name of such owner, with his address and the number of his certificate
174 and description of such automobile, to be entered on the records of his department
175 in alphabetical and numerical order. And the holder of said certificate, when
176 requested by any motor vehicle inspector, police officer, or magistrate, while in the
177 performance of the duties of his office, shall exhibit said certificate, to the end that
178 the said motor vehicle inspector, police officer, or magistrate may thereby determine
179 the correctness of said certificate as the same relates to the registration number
180 plates of the motor vehicle for which the said certificate was issued.

181 (10) Duplicate certificates. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, upon
182 presentation of a statement duly sworn to, setting forth that the original registration
183 certificate or driver's license has been destroyed, lost or stolen, may, if he is satis-
184 fied that the facts as set forth in the statement are substantially true, issue a dupli-
185 cate registration certificate or driver's license to the original holder thereof, upon the
186 payment to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of a fee of one dollar for each
187 duplicate registration certificate or driver's license so issued.

1 6. Section fourteen of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby amended
2 to read as follows:

3 14. (1) No person shall operate or use any motor vehicle without the permis-
4 sion of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provision shall [be fined not
5 more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or both for
6 a first violation; for a second violation imprisoned not more than ten years; and for
7 each subsequent violation imprisoned not more than fifteen years.] be deemed guilty
8 of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not to
9 exceed two thousand dollars or by imprisonment not to exceed two years or both at
10 the discretion of the court.

11 (2) No person shall interfere or tamper with a motor vehicle or put in motion
12 the engine of such vehicle while it is standing, without the permission of the owner.
13 Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than ten nor more
14 than fifty dollars for a first offense, and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined
15 not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment of not more
16 than thirty days or both.

17 (3) No person shall operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxi-
18 cating liquor or any narcotic or habit producing drugs, or permit any person who
18½ may be under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic or habit producing
19 drugs to operate any motor vehicle owned by him or in his custody or control. Any
20 person who shall violate this provision shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished
21 by an imprisonment of not less than thirty days and not more than six months in the
22 county jail or work-house of the county wherein the offense was committed, and
23 shall forthwith forfeit his right to operate a motor vehicle over the highways of
24 this State; and no new license shall be issued by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
25 to any person convicted of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of in-
26 toxicating liquor or narcotic or habit producing drugs until one year after the date of
27 his or her conviction, if for a first offense, or five years after any subsequent convic-
27½ tion.

28 (4) Every person operating a motor vehicle who shall knowingly cause injury
29 to any other person or to property in the possession or use of such person shall at
30 once stop and ascertain the extent of the injury and render such assistance as may be
31 needed, and upon request, give his name, address, and operator's license and registra-
32 tion number to the person injured or to any officer or witness of the injury. Any per-

33 son who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more
34 than one hundred dollars for the first offense, and for any subsequent offense, not
35 less than one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars.

36 (5) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any public highway for a
37 wager or in a race or for the purpose of making a speed record. Any person who
38 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-five, nor more than one
39 hundred dollars for the first offense, and, for any subsequent offense, not less than
40 one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars.

41 (6) No person shall operate any commercial motor vehicle on any public high-
42 way or bridge when the combined weight of vehicle and load exceeds thirty thou-
43 sand pounds, [without a written permit from the State Highway Commission which
44 shall prescribe the conditions under which the same shall be operated.] Any person
45 who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than one hundred nor more
46 than five hundred dollars.

47 (7) Any person who shall leave any motor vehicle, with its engine running, sta-
48 tionary on the highway and unoccupied by a person able to control the same, and
49 without setting the hand brake in such manner as to prevent such vehicle from mov-
50 ing, shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty five dollars for each offense.

51 (8) No person to whom an operator's license has been refused, or whose opera-
52 tor's license has been suspended or revoked, shall personally operate any motor ve-
53 hicle during the period of such refusal, suspension, or revocation. Any person who
54 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hun-
55 dred dollars.

56 (9) No person shall counterfeit any number plate or marker, nor make any
57 substitute or temporary marker. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be
58 fined not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars.

59 (10) No person shall use any marker other than the one issued to him by the
60 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, except as provided in subdivision four of section
61 ten. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-
62 five nor more than fifty dollars.

63 (11) No person shall loan any operator's license issued by the commissioner,
64 for use by any person other than the person named in said license, nor shall loan any

65 marker or certificate of registration, issued by the commissioner, for use on any
66 other than that of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be
67 fined not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars.

68 (12) No person owning a motor vehicle registered as provided for in this act,
69 shall allow such vehicle to be operated by a nonlicensed driver. Any person who
70 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hun-
71 dred dollars.

72 (13) Any person, except when acting under the authority of the governing
73 body of any municipality, who shall throw, place, or deposit any glass or other sharp
74 or cutting substance or any other injurious or cutting substance in or upon any of
75 the public highways of this State [shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars
76 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, for the first violation; for the second
77 violation, imprisoned not more than than ten years; and for each subsequent viola-
78 tion, imprisoned not more than fifteen years] shall be deemed guilty of a misde-
79 meanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed two
80 thousand dollars or by imprisonment not to exceed two years or both at the discre-
81 tion of the court.

82 (14) Any person or persons making any misstatement of facts in his or her appli-
83 cation for registration of a motor vehicle or driver's license, or give a fictitious ad-
84 dress [shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof,] shall
85 be subject to a fine of not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more than five
86 hundred dollars (\$500.00), (or imprisonment for one year, or both, at the discretion
87 of the court) and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall upon proper evidence of
88 such misstatement, or fictitious address, revoke the registration of the motor vehicle,
89 or the driver's license, as the case may be. It shall be the duty of the registered
90 owner of every motor vehicle and of every licensed operator to notify the Commis-
91 sioner of Motor Vehicles of any change in his or her place of residence, within one
92 week after such change is made.

1 7. Section twenty five of the act to which this is an amendment, is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 25 (1) Jurisdiction of offenses: [summary] hearings; process. A complaint
4 having been made in writing and duly verified, that any person has violated any of

5 the provisions of this act, any magistrate of the county, or recorder or police magis-
6 trate of any municipality, in which the offense is committed may, within thirty days
7 after the commission of said offense, issue either a summons or a warrant directed
8 to any constable, police officer, the inspector of motor vehicles or the Commissioner
9 of Motor Vehicles of this State, for the appearance or arrest of the person so
10 charged; and the magistrate shall state what section or provision of this act has
11 been violated by the defendant, and the time, place and nature of said violation and
12 upon the return of said summons or warrant the said magistrate shall proceed [in
13 a summary way] to hear and determine the guilt or innocence of such person, and
14 upon conviction, may impose upon the person so convicted the penalty, by this act
15 prescribed, together with the costs of prosecution for such offense.

16 (2) Such magistrate, upon receiving complaint in writing, duly verified, of the
17 violation of any provision of this act by a corporation, is hereby authorized and re-
18 quired to issue a summons directed to any constable, police officer, the inspector of
19 motor vehicles, or the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of this State, requiring such
20 corporation to be and appear before said magistrate on a day therein named, to an-
21 swer to said complaint, which said summons shall be served on the president, vice-
22 president, secretary, superintendent or manager of such corporation, or the agent
23 upon whom other process against it may be served, at least five days before the time
24 of appearance mentioned therein, and thereafter all proceedings shall be the same as
25 against individuals, except where a different procedure is provided by this act.

1 8. Section twenty-eight of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 28. Record of appeal, summary trial. Whenever an appeal shall be taken as
4 aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the magistrate within ten days after defendant has
5 completed his appeal to send all papers and all money, if any, deposited according
6 with the provisions of this act and all money paid for costs of prosecution together
7 with a transcript of the proceedings in the case to the Court of Common Pleas of
8 the said county and the trial on appeal must be noticed for a hearing by said de-
9 fendant for a day not more than thirty days after he has completed his appeal and
10 in the event that the court be not in session then for a day as soon thereafter as the
11 said court will fix to hear the same, by serving upon the attorney of the municipality

12 wherein the alleged violation was committed, not more than twenty days after com-
13 pleting his appeal, a five days' written notice thereof, and in cases where the munici-
14 pality has no attorney then upon the clerk thereof, and in cases where the [arrest]
15 complaint is made by a motor vehicle inspector or by a member of the State Con-
16 stabulary, the aforementioned notice must within the same period of time be served
17 upon the Attorney-General of the State either personally or by registered mail; and
18 it shall be the duty of the attorney for the municipality wherein the alleged violation
19 was committed, to represent the municipality at the trial on appeal, provided that in
20 cases where the complaint is made by a motor vehicle inspector or by a member of
21 the State Constabulary, it shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to represent the
22 complainant at the trial on appeal; and should the defendant fail to give the required
23 notice of the trial on appeal to the person and within the time as hereinbefore pro-
24 vided, then the like proceedings may be had as would by the provisions of this act
25 follow and appeal taken and a judgment of affirmance thereupon. The Court of
26 Common Pleas, on appeal shall, de novo, and in a summary way, try and determine
27 all such appeals and in case the defendant is convicted on such appeal, the Court of
28 Common Pleas shall impose the penalty prescribed by the act to which this act is an
29 amendment, and in case the defendant is acquitted on such appeal, the Court of Com-
30 mon Pleas shall order the return of all moneys deposited as aforesaid and all costs
31 of prosecution paid by said defendant to said defendant.

1 9. Section thirty-four of the act to which this is an amendment is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 34. Any person who shall be convicted of violating the provisions of section thir-
4 teen of this act shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars; in de-
5 fault of the payment of such fine there shall be imposed an imprisonment in the county
6 jail for a period not exceeding ten days; *provided*, that any offender who shall be
7 convicted of second offense of the same violation may be fined in double the amount
8 herein prescribed for the first offense, and may, in default of the payment thereof, be
9 punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding twenty days;
10 *provided, further*, that the penalties above prescribed shall not apply to the display of
11 a fictitious number.

12 Any person convicted of displaying a fictitious number as prohibited by section
13 thirteen, or violating the provisions of section ten shall be subject to a fine not ex-
14 ceeding five hundred dollars, or to imprisonment in the county jail for a period not
15 exceeding sixty days.

16 Any person who shall be convicted of a violation of section nine of this act shall
17 be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

18 Any person who shall be convicted of a violation of subdivision two of section
19 eleven of this act shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

20 Any person who shall be convicted of a violation of section sixteen of this act
21 shall, for the first offense, be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars; in
22 default of the payment of such fine there shall be imposed an imprisonment in the
23 county jail for a period not exceeding ten days; *provided*, that any offender who
24 shall be convicted of a second or any subsequent offense of the same violation may
25 be fined in double the amount herein prescribed for the first offense, or imprisonment
26 in the county jail for a period not exceeding twenty days and in addition to such
27 penalties the license of said offender shall be revoked; *provided, further*, that
28 nothing herein contained shall prevent a revocation of license for the first offense
29 or for the violation of any provisions of this act.

30 Any person who shall be convicted of violating any of the provisions of section
31 seven of section fifteen shall be subject to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

1 10. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify the Motor Vehicle Act in the following par-
ticulars.

The definition "commercial motor vehicle" is hereby amended to exempt touring cars
of the passenger type used by farmers for the transportation of farm products and milk.
This amendment has the approval of the Agricultural Society of New Jersey and is the
result of a conference had with their representatives and the Department of Motor Ve-
hicles.

The word "volunteer" is stricken from section two in order to allow all fire companies an exemption from the payment of the registration fee.

Section seven is amended so as to reduce the candle power of bulbs used in automobile head lamps from 24 candle power to 21 candle power, and to permit the revocation of approval permits whenever a lighting device is deficient.

Section nine of the Motor Vehicle Act is amended to enable the department to commence the issuance of licenses on November fifteenth each year for the succeeding year instead of December first as at present.

The amendment proposed to section eleven is for the purpose of preventing the misuse of dealer plates so that dealer plates now used for individual purposes and by other than bona fide dealers in connection with their business as such will no longer be possible. The same section is amended so as to hold the operator of a motor vehicle who drives the same in an overloaded condition and also fixes a penalty for the operation of a motor vehicle not equipped with rubber tires. The amendment respecting the use of dealers plates has been heartily endorsed by the Dealers Association of New Jersey.

Section fourteen is amended so as to make the offense of operating a motor vehicle without the permission of the owner or placing any sharp or cutting substance upon the highways an indictable offense constituting same as a misdemeanor. The present law omitted this provision. This section is also amended to provide for the commitment of persons convicted of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor to either the county jail or workhouse of the county wherein the offense was committed.

An amendment is also provided to enable the imposition of a fine upon any person or persons who makes any misstatements of facts in his or her application for motor vehicles or driver's license.

Section twenty-five is amended to strike out the words "in a summary way" in order that magistrates will not be required to hold hearings at unseemly hours, and to make more difficult reversals of convictions for intoxicated driving where a summary hearing is not given.

Section twenty-eight is amended to provide wherein an appeal is taken, it shall be the duty of the attorney for the municipality wherein the alleged violation is committed, or the Attorney-General as the case may be, to represent the municipality at the trial on ap-

peal. This amendment is desired because of the fact that many appeals to reverse conviction for intoxicated driving have been successful, due to the failure of the attorney for the municipality to take action desired to uphold the judgment of the local magistrate.

This bill was unanimously passed by the 1923 legislature but was vetoed by the Governor because it required that farm tractors should be equipped with rubber tires. The objections of the Governor have been eliminated from this draft and as these amendments are very necessary, they are respectfully submitted with the earnest approval of the Department of Motor Vehicles of New Jersey:

Laws of 1926, Chapter 152

SENATE, No. 79

374129

(P. L. 1921, Chap. 208, p. 643.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 25, 1926.

By Mr. SIMPSON.

Referred to the Committee on Revision and Amendment of the Laws.

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act defining motor vehicles and providing for the registration of the same and the licensing of the drivers thereof; fixing rules regulating the use and speed of motor vehicles; fixing the amount of licenses and registration fees; prescribing and regulating process and the services thereof and proceedings for the violation of the provisions of the act and penalties for said violations," approved April eighth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one.

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

1 1. Section fourteen of the act of which this act is amendatory be and the same
2 is hereby amended so that the same shall read as follows:

3 14. (1) No person shall operate or use any motor vehicle without the permis-
4 sion of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be deemed
5 guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of
6 not to exceed two thousand dollars or by imprisonment not to exceed two years or
7 both at the discretion of the court.

8 (2) No person shall interfere or tamper with a motor vehicle or put in motion
9 the engine of such vehicle while it is standing, without the permission of the owner.
10 any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than ten nor more
11 than fifty dollars for a first offense, and for each subsequent offense shall be fined
12 not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars or imprisonment of not more
13 than thirty days or both.

14 (3) No person shall operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of in-

15 toxicating liquor or any narcotic or habit-producing drugs, or permit any person
16 who may be under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic or habit-produc-
17 ing drugs to operate any motor vehicle owned by him or in his custody or control.
18 [Any person who shall violate this provision shall, upon conviction thereof, be pun-
19 ished by an imprisonment of not less than thirty days and not more than six months
20 in the county jail or workhouse of the county wherein the offense was committed,
21 and shall forthwith forfeit his right to operate a motor vehicle over the highways
22 of this State: and no new license shall be issued by the Commissioner of Motor Ve-
23 hicles to any person convicted of operating a motor vehicle while under the infu-
24 ence of intoxicating liquor or narcotic or habit-producing drugs until one year after
25 the date of his or her conviction, if for a first offense, or five years after any
26 subsequent conviction.] Any person who shall violate this provision shall, upon con-
27 viction thereof for a first offense, be subject to a fine of not less than two hundred
28 dollars or more than five hundred dollars, or to imprisonment for a term of not less
29 than thirty days, and not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the
30 magistrate, and shall forthwith forfeit his right to operate a motor vehicle over the
31 highways of this State for a period of two years from the date of his or her said
32 conviction. Any person who shall violate this provision, having been convicted of
33 a previous violation hereof, shall be imprisoned for a term of six months, and shall
34 forfeit his right to thereafter operate a motor vehicle over the highways of this
35 State. Any magistrate imposing a term of imprisonment pursuant to the provi-
36 sions of this act may sentence the person so convicted either to the county jail
37 or to the workhouse of the county wherein the offense was committed.

38 (4) Every person operating a motor vehicle who shall be involved in an acci-
39 dent [knowingly cause injury to any other person or to property in the possession
40 or use of such person] shall at once stop and ascertain the extent of the injury and
41 render such assistance as may be needed, and [upon request,] give his name, ad-
42 dress, and operator's license and registration number to the person injured or to any
43 officer or witness of the injury. Any person who shall violate this provision shall
44 be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars for the first
45 offense, and for any subsequent offense not less than one hundred dollars nor more
46 than two hundred dollars.

47 (5) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any public highway for a
48 wager or in a race or for the purpose of making a speed record. Any person who
49 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than
50 one hundred dollars for the first offense, and for any subsequent offense not less
51 than one hundred nor more than two hundred dollars.

52 (6) No person shall operate any commercial motor vehicle on any public high-
53 way or bridge when the combined weight of vehicle and load exceeds thirty thou-
54 sand pounds. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less
55 than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars.

56 (7) Any person who shall leave any motor vehicle, with its engine running,
57 stationary on the highway and unoccupied by a person able to control the same, and
58 without setting the hand brake in such manner as to prevent such vehicle from mov-
59 ing shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars for each
60 offense.

61 (8) No person to whom an operator's license has been refused, or whose op-
62 erator's license has been suspended or revoked, shall personally operate any motor
63 vehicle during the period of such refusal, suspension, or revocation. Any person
64 who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than one hundred [fifty]
65 nor more than five [one] hundred dollars.

66 (9) No person shall counterfeit any number plate or marker, nor make any
67 substitute or temporary marker. Any person who shall violate this provision shall
68 be fined not less than fifty nor more than one hundred dollars.

69 (10) No person shall use any marker other than the one issued to him by the
70 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, except as provided in subdivision four of section
71 ten. Any person who shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than twen-
72 ty-five nor more than fifty dollars.

73 (11) No person shall loan any operator's license issued by the Commissioner,
74 for use by any person other than the person named in said license, nor shall loan any
75 marker or certificate of registration, issued by the Commissioner for use on any
76 other car other than that of the owner. Any person who shall violate this provi-
77 sion shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars.

78 (12) No person owning a motor vehicle registered as provided for in this act

79 shall allow such vehicle to be operated by a non-licensed driver. Any person who
 80 shall violate this provision shall be fined not less than fifty nor more than one
 81 hundred dollars.

82 (13) Any person, except when acting under the authority of the governing
 83 body of any municipality, who shall throw, place, or deposit any glass or other
 84 sharp or cutting substance or any other injurious or cutting substance in or upon
 85 any of the public highways of this State shall [be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor
 86 and] upon conviction thereof [shall] be punished by a fine not [to exceed two
 87 thousand] less than one hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars [by
 88 imprisonment not to exceed two years or both, at the discretion of the court.]

89 (14) Any person or persons making any misstatement of facts in his or her
 90 application for registration of a motor vehicle or driver's license, or give a fictitious
 90½ address shall be subject to a fine of not less than two hundred (200.00) or more
 91 than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for one year, or both, at the
 92 discretion of the court, and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon proper
 93 evidence of such misstatement, or fictitious address, revoke the registration of the
 94 motor vehicle, or the driver's license, as the case may be. It shall be the duty of
 95 the registered owner of every motor vehicle and of every licensed operator to
 96 notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of any change in his or her place of
 97 residence, within one week after such change is made.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

L. 1926, c. 152

STATEMENT.

The Operation of Motor Vehicles by Intoxicated Drivers.

It is the result of several weeks of study of the subject by a committee of police magistrates, named by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, to suggest to legislation a law that would curb the present day evil of obtaining the discharge of automobile drivers from custody on purely technical grounds.

The committee of police magistrates are all members of the bar and have served in the capacity of police magistrate for a long period of time, so that their experience

in dealing with the subject is unquestioned. They recommend, and this bill provides, for a mandatory minimum fine of two-hundred dollars or imprisonment in jail, in the discretion of the magistrate, for the first offense. For a subsequent offense the bill provides for a mandatory jail sentence of six months and the perpetual revocation of their driver's license.

It is felt that this bill, together with the companion measure, will effectually eliminate appeals for the release of intoxicated drivers on technical grounds, and will make certain, unless the facts are to the contrary, that when a penalty for intoxicated driving is imposed the defendant will be compelled to discharge his objection to society and the State.

The bill also amends several other subdivisions of section fourteen, among them the one relating to the throwing of glass or other sharp substance on the roadway, and making it necessary to give name, address and license number whenever an accident occurs.

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT.]
ASSEMBLY AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE, No 79

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

- 1 On page two, line twenty-nine, strike out the word "six" and insert in lieu there-
 - 2 of the word "three".
 - 3 Strike out on line thirty-three, the word "six" and insert in lieu thereof the
 - 4 word "three".
 - 5 In line thirty-eight, by inserting after the word "shall" and before the word "be"
 - 6 the word "knowingly".
-

12 was committed, not more than ten days after completing his appeal a five days'
 13 written notice thereof, and in cases where the complaint is made by a motor vehicle
 14 inspector or by a member of the State Police, the aforementioned
 15 notice must, within the same period of time, be served upon the Attorney-General of
 16 the State, either personally, or by registered mail; and it shall be the duty of the
 17 prosecutor of the pleas of the county, wherein the alleged violation was committed,
 18 to represent the complainant at the trial on appeal; *provided*, that in cases where the
 19 complaint is made by a motor vehicle inspector, or by a member of the State Police,
 20 it shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to represent the com-
 21 plainant at the trial or appeal; the prosecutor of the pleas of any county, charged
 22 with the enforcement of the provisions of this section, may request the Attorney-
 23 General to attend personally, or by such assistant or assistants, as he shall designate
 24 to aid in the prosecution of the said appeal, and should the defendant fail to give the
 25 required notice of trial on appeal to the person, and within the time as hereinbefore
 26 provided, then the like proceeding may be had as would by the provisions of this act
 27 follow an appeal taken and a judgment of affirmance thereupon. The court of
 28 common pleas, on appeal, shall, de novo, and in a summary manner try and determine
 29 all such appeals, and in case the defendant is convicted on such appeal, the court of
 30 common pleas shall impose the penalty prescribed by the act of which this act is
 31 amendatory, and in case the defendant is acquitted upon such an appeal, the court of
 32 common pleas shall order the return of all moneys deposited as aforesaid, and all
 33 costs of prosecution paid by the said defendant, to the said defendant. It shall be
 34 lawful for the court of common pleas in any appeal brought before it at all times
 35 to amend all defects and errors for the purpose of determining on the trial of any
 36 appeal the merits of the said case.

1 15. This act shall take effect immediately.

L 1931, c. 171

STATEMENT

No. 1. Amendment to section four, subdivision three. This amendment requires the production of the license of the driver and *the certificate of registration of the motor*

vehicle from the driver thereof. The present law does not now authorize a motor vehicle inspector to demand the production of the certificate of registration of the motor vehicle from the driver thereof. This amendment will confer this power upon him, and is absolutely essential.

No. 2. This amendment has been drawn so that the Department can keep abreast of the trend of progress in the art of lighting, which is progressing so rapidly that it cannot properly be regulated by specific laws. Other States have elastic laws that permit of new regulations to be promulgated from time to time by the motor vehicle administrators, and it has been impossible to do this in New Jersey, which has made it necessary to appeal to the Legislature each year to amend this section. Under this amendment, the Commissioner may promulgate all lighting regulations.

This amendment also makes compulsory the use of windshield wipers. This omission in the present law was brought forcibly to the attention of the Department during the last Safety Campaign, where it was found that the equipment of motor vehicles with windshield wipers could not legally be insisted upon.

No. 3. At present there is no penalty when a person possessing physical defects violates the conditional license granted to him or her by the Commissioner. Numerous instances occur yearly by persons who violate their conditional licenses and penalties should be created to deter future violations. This is necessary in the opinion of the Commissioner as a safeguard to life and property.

No. 4. This amendment changes the date for the issuance of registrations and licenses and for the use of licenses. The Department cannot now issue registration certificates or drivers' licenses before November fifteenth for use in the following year. It will help relieve congestion at Motor Vehicle Agencies if authority is granted to issue registration plates from November first. This section is also amended to permit the use of drivers' licenses as well as registration certificates for the following year on the fifteenth day of December of the year for which such license is issued. At the present time, the registration certificate only can be used on December fifteenth, and there seems to be no good reason why the new driving license cannot be used also. It is believed that this permission will assist the Department's efforts to obtain the co-operation of the public in applying early, and thus facilitate the work at the agencies and be for the convenience of the applicants.

This amendment corrects an omission in the present law of a few words which were evidently left out inadvertently when preparing previous amendments which were passed, and which now makes the section (nine-three) read in such a way as not to make sense.

This amendment further makes it necessary for the registration certificate to be available at all times when the motor vehicle is being operated. The law as originally passed used the word "holder" which was liberally construed to mean either the owner or the operator. It was impossible to impose a penalty for failure to have registration certificate in possession, unless the owner or holder of the certificate of registration happened to be in the vehicle at the time of the violation. This amendment makes it necessary for the operator or person in charge of the vehicle to have the registration card in his possession, in order to be produced on request of police officials.

The present law demands the production of the registration certificate from *the holder thereof*. It is necessary for proper law enforcement that the registration certificate be in the possession of the operator and there is no penalty at the present time if the driver or operator fails to produce the registration certificate. This situation requires immediate correction.

In the amendment to subdivision four of section nine, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles at the place underlined has been substituted for the Secretary of State.

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles would appear to be the proper official to receive papers to be served by registered mail on non-residents, in damage suits arising from accidents. At the time the law was originally passed, the Department of Motor Vehicles was a part of the Department of State, but since the Act of 1926 was passed separating the Department of Motor Vehicles from the Department of State, there does not appear to be any good reason for continuing the service work through the office of the Secretary of State.

No. 5. There is no provision in the law to punish fraudulent examination takers. It is essential to life and property that only competent persons be permitted to drive motor cars, and when persons are detected who either take examinations for others or who procure licenses for others without the necessity of examination, they should be promptly punished.

The amendment to subdivision three of section ten simply strengthens provision nine-three which requires that the registration certificate must be in the motor vehicle

when such vehicle is operated over the highways, and that such certificate must be produced on request of a police officer or magistrate.

The amendment to subdivision four of section ten provides that omnibuses traveling through the State not registered under the New Jersey Act be permitted only the fifteen-day reciprocity privilege accorded to commercial vehicles. Omnibuses should not be given the ninety-day reciprocity privilege accorded to visiting passenger cars.

The amendment to subdivision five of section ten allows non-resident drivers to operate cars bearing New Jersey plates, during the ninety day reciprocity period, but does not allow this privilege to any non-resident driver under the age of seventeen years, or to any non-resident driver whose home State does not require a driving license.

No. 6. There are so few "M" plates issued yearly that it is advisable to discontinue the manufacture thereof and issue "D" plates.

With reference to amendment to subdivision four of section eleven, the problem of truck overloading is a serious one. It causes damage to our roads in an amount that is difficult to compute. Under our present law, the operator is promptly punished by a mandatory minimum penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) with a maximum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for the first offense and for a subsequent offense a minimum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) and a maximum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). The experience of the department discloses that in most instances the operator is not primarily responsible for the overloading, and that he was merely carrying out the orders of his superior. In many instances, truck owners do not pay the fine of the truck driver and let him shift for himself and such demands have proven of great financial embarrassment. I suggest that the punishment be shifted to where it belongs. Place the responsibility for overloading upon the owner and make him, or the corporation, if it be the owner, be compelled to pay the fine for the offense. I believe it will tend to reduce the overloading violations in this State. If situations develop where the operator is responsible for the overloading, the owner is in a position to punish the operator by dismissal.

Motor vehicle inspectors discover numerous situations where trucks and other commercial vehicles are operated with badly worn solid rubber tires. Our present law provides for no punishment for such an offense. A penalty comparable to the penalty

imposed for failure to operate a motor vehicle with rubber tires is essential to mitigate this type of abuse.

The amendment to subdivision seven of section eleven allows the half-rate fee for registrations to go into effect *on* the first day of August, which was no doubt the original intent, but the law was not so worded.

No. 7. This amendment has been drawn to make our requirements similar to those of other states which extend the maximum height of the license plates to forty-eight inches.

No. 8. During 1930, Judge Truax of the Monmouth County Court of Common Pleas decided that he could not impose the punishment provided for a second offender because the complaint against the defendant did not set forth that he was a second offender. He was guided in his determination by *Weeks vs. State*, 101 N. J. L. P. 15 and *State vs. Garton*, 102 N. J. P. 318. Rarely is the court of the complainant in a "drunken driving" case able to determine at the time complaint is made that the defendant has been previously convicted for said offense, and should this determination of Judge Truax be followed in other jurisdictions a second offender in fact is likely to escape the penalty intended by law. No injustice will be imposed upon a defendant who *in fact* has been a previous offender, if the complaint against him does not recite a previous conviction.

There never has been a penalty imposed for a person failing to notify the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles of a change of residence; neither has there been a penalty for applying for a license at a department agency after the applicant's license has been revoked.

No. 9. This amendment to section seventeen provides a penalty for failure of a magistrate to return fines either to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or to the financial officer of the county. The law heretofore provided no penalty for this offense.

This amendment also provides that a magistrate must give a receipt for a fine when a defendant requests such a receipt. Countless complaints have been received by the Department from persons who have paid fines, and who have been denied receipts by the convicting magistrates. Such defendants are certainly entitled to receipts, which will also serve the double purpose of being a check on the magistrate and will assist in securing the proper return to the State or county of all moneys collected in fines for violation

of the Motor Vehicle Act. Penalty is also provided for failure to forward revoked license cards to the Commissioner.

No. 10. In section twenty-one the most important change is the addition of a table setting forth the tire sizes and the gross weight allowed for commercial vehicles bearing pneumatic tires. Previously, the law specified the table for solid-tired vehicles only.

A penalty is also provided for violation of section twenty-one, which was missing from our previous law.

No. 11. This amendment permits thirty days from the date of the *discovery* of violations as the time in which complaints may be made. This is necessary in certain cases, as violations with reference to improper applications for registrations and licenses are sometimes not discovered until more than thirty days have elapsed from the date of the application. The law at present restricts the bringing of a complaint to thirty days from the date of a violation.

No. 12. Heretofore, regardless of who made the complaint, notice of appeal has been served upon the prosecutor of the pleas. It is desired that the notice of appeal be served upon the Attorney General, where the complaint is made by a motor vehicle inspector or State police officer, in view of the fact that the Attorney General represents the State on appeal where either a motor vehicle inspector or a State Police officer is the complainant.

No. 13. The words "State Police" have been substituted for the words "State Constabulary." It is merely a technical change. There is no State Department known as the "State Constabulary."

L. 1932, C 36

ASSEMBLY, No. 350

(Amendment to Chapter 281, P. L. 1928)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 1932

By Mr. WISE

Referred to Committee on Motor Vehicle and Traffic

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act providing for the regulation of vehicles, animals and pedestrians on all public roads and turnpikes, and prescribing and regulating process and the service thereof and proceedings for the violation of the provisions of the act, and penalties for said violations, and granting authority to towns, cities, boroughs, and townships, under certain restrictions for the adoption of ordinances further regulating vehicles, pedestrians and animals, and designating the authorities to enforce its provisions, and defining their powers and their authority" (Revision of 1928) approved July fourteenth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

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

1 1. Section one of article two of the act to which this act is amendatory is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 1. The driver of any vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, involved in an acci-
4 dent resulting in injury or death to any person shall immediately stop such vehicle
5 at the scene of such accident.

1 2. Section two of article two of the act to which this act is amendatory is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 2. The driver of any vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, involved in an acci-
4 dent resulting in damage to property shall immediately stop such vehicle at the scene
5 of such accident.

1 3. Section three of article two of the act to which this act is amendatory is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 3. The driver of any vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, involved in any acci-
4 dent resulting in injury or death to any person or damage to property shall also give
5 his name, address and the registration number of his vehicle and exhibit his oper-
6 ator's license to the person struck or the driver or occupants of any vehicle collided
7 with, and shall render to any person injured in such accident reasonable assistance,
8 including carrying of such person to a hospital or a physician for medical or surgi-
9 cal treatment, if it is apparent that such treatment is necessary or is requested by
10 the injured person.

1 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

L. 1932, c 36

STATEMENT

A "hit and run" motor vehicle driver is punishable under the Motor Vehicle Act as well as the Traffic Act. There is conflict between the two acts with regard to the punishment. Under the above amendment, punishment of the "hit and run" motor vehicle driver will be meted out in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Act exclusively.

L. 1932, C. 89

ASSEMBLY, No. 374

(Amendment to Chap. 208, P. L. 1921)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 1932

By Mr. WISE

Referred to Committee on Motor Vehicle and Traffic

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act defining motor vehicles and providing for the registration of the same and the licensing of the drivers thereof; fixing rules regulating the use and speed of motor vehicles; fixing the amount of license and registration fees; prescribing and regulating process and the service thereof and proceedings for the violation of the provisions of the act and penalties for said violations," approved April eighth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one.

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

1 1. Subdivision four of section fourteen of the act to which this act is amend-
2 atory is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 (4) The driver of any motor vehicle involved in an accident resulting in in-
4 jury or death to any person or damage to property shall immediately stop such ve-
5 hicle at the scene of such accident, give [Every person operating a motor vehicle
6 who shall knowingly be involved in an accident shall at once stop and ascertain the
7 extent of the injury and render such assistance as may be needed, and give] his
8 name and address and exhibit his driver's license and registration certificate of his
9 vehicle to the person struck or injured and the driver and occupants of any vehicle col-
10 lided with and to any police officer and to any witnesses of the accident and shall render
11 to any person injured in such accident reasonable assistance, including the carrying of
12 such person to a hospital or a physician for medical or surgical treatment if it is appar-
13 ent that such treatment is necessary or is requested by the injured person. [his name,
14 address, and operator's license and registration number to the person injured or to

15 any officer or witness of the injury]. Any person who shall violate this provision
16 shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than one hundred
17 dollars (\$100), or imprisoned for a period not exceeding thirty days, or both, for
18 the first offense, and for any subsequent offense be fined not less than one hundred
19 dollars (\$100) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200), or be imprisoned for a
20 period of not less than thirty days, nor more than ninety days, or both.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

(Subdivision 4, Section 14.) The above is a change in the definition of a hit and run driver, as well as an increase of the punishment, and is recommended and urged by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. It will add considerable potency in the prosecution and conviction of persons running away from the scene of an accident.

Incidentally, it makes a hit and run driver subject to criminal conviction who causes property damage, a situation not now taken care of under the present law. At the present time, a person charged with hit and run driving under the Motor Vehicle Act is not subject to imprisonment, a change which the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles emphatically recommends.

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 374

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED MARCH 15, 1932

1. Amend Section one, line 3, by inserting after the word "vehicle" and before the word "involved" the words: "who shall be knowingly".

L. 1940, C. 147

ASSEMBLY, No. 218

(Revised Statutes, section 39:4-129.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 25, 1940

By Mr. BERTONI

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT concerning motor vehicle regulation, and amending section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. Section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

39:4-129. The driver of any vehicle knowingly involved in an accident resulting in injury or death to a person or damage to property shall immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident, give his name and address and exhibit his operator's license and registration certificate of his vehicle to the person injured or struck and to any police officer or witness of the accident, and to the driver or occupants of the vehicle collided with and render to a person injured in the accident reasonable assistance, including the carrying of that person to a hospital or a physician for medical or surgical treatment, if it is apparent that the treatment is necessary or is requested by the injured person.

A driver of a motor vehicle who, after being knowingly involved in an accident resulting in injury or death to a pedestrian, shall violate this section shall be fined in the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or be imprisoned for a period of thirty days, or both, for the first offense, and for a

17 subsequent offense shall be fined in the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00),
 18 or be imprisoned for a period of six months, or both and any other driver of
 19 a motor vehicle who violates this section shall be fined not less than twenty-
 20 five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or be im-
 21 prisoned for a period of not more than thirty days, or both, for the first
 22 offense, and for a subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than one hun-
 23 dred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or be
 24 imprisoned for a period of not less than thirty days nor more than ninety
 25 days, or both.

26 A driver of a vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, who violates this sec-
 27 tion shall be punished as provided in section 39:4-203 of this Title.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The purpose of this act is to provide for stringent penalties for the driver of a motor vehicle who causes an accident resulting in injury or death.

ASSEMBLY, No. 218

(Revised Statutes, section 39:4-129.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 25, 1940

By Mr. BERTONI

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT concerning motor vehicle regulation, and amending section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1 1. Section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 39:4-129. The driver of any vehicle knowingly involved in an accident
4 resulting in injury or death to a person or damage to property shall im-
5 mediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident, give his name and
6 address and exhibit his operator's license and registration certificate of his
7 vehicle to the person injured or struck and to any police officer or witness of
8 the accident, and to the driver or occupants of the vehicle collided with and
9 render to a person injured in the accident reasonable assistance, including
10 the carrying of that person to a hospital or a physician for medical or surgical
11 treatment, if it is apparent that the treatment is necessary or is requested by
12 the injured person.

13 A driver of a motor vehicle who, after being knowingly involved in an
14 accident resulting in injury or death to a pedestrian, shall violate this sec-
15 tion shall be fined in the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or be im-
16 prisoned for a period of thirty days, or both, for the first offense, and for a

17 subsequent offense shall be fined in the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00),
18 or be imprisoned for a period of six months, or both and any other driver of
19 a motor vehicle who violates this section shall be fined not less than twenty-
20 five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or be im-
21 prisoned for a period of not more than thirty days, or both, for the first
22 offense, and for a subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than one hun-
23 dred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or be
24 imprisoned for a period of not less than thirty days nor more than ninety
25 days, or both.

26 A driver of a vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, who violates this sec-
27 tion shall be punished as provided in section 39:4-203 of this Title.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY, No. 846

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 10, 1967

By Assemblyman PERSKIE

Referred to Committee on Highways, Transportation and
Public Utilities

AN ACT concerning motor vehicles, amending sections 39:4-129, 39:4-130, 39:4-131 and 39:4-132 of the Revised Statutes; supplementing article 15 of chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, and repealing sections 39:4-9 and 39:4-133 of the Revised Statutes.

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

3 1. Section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read
4 as follows:

5 39:4-129. (a) The driver of any vehicle [knowingly] involved
6 in an accident resulting in injury or death to [a] any person [or
7 damage to property] shall immediately stop the vehicle at the scene
8 of the accident or as close thereto as possible but shall then forth-
9 with return to and in every event shall remain at the scene until
10 he has fulfilled the requirements of subsection (c) of this section.
11 Every such stop shall be made without obstructing traffic more
12 than is necessary. Any person who shall violate this subsection
13 shall be fined in the sum of \$100.00, or be imprisoned for a period
14 of 30 days, or both, for the first offense, and for a subsequent
15 offense shall be fined in the sum of \$500.00, or be imprisoned for a
16 period of 6 months, or both.

17 (b) The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting
18 only in damage to a vehicle, including his own vehicle, or other
19 property which is attended by any person shall immediately stop
20 his vehicle at the scene of such accident or as close thereto as
21 possible, but shall then forthwith return to and in every event shall
22 remain at the scene of such accident until he has fulfilled the re-
23 quirements of subsection (c) of this section. Every such stop shall
24 be made without obstructing traffic more than is necessary. Any
25 person who shall violate this subsection shall be fined not less
26 than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00, or be imprisoned for a period

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

1 of not more than 30 days, or both, for the first offense, and for a
2 subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more
3 than \$200.00, or be imprisoned for a period of not less than 30 days
4 nor more than 90 days, or both.

5 (c) The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting
6 in injury or death to any person or damage to any vehicle or
7 property shall **[.]** give his name and address and exhibit his opera-
8 tor's license and registration certificate of his vehicle to the person
9 injured or **[struck]** whose vehicle or property was damaged and
10 to any police officer or witness of the accident, and to the driver
11 or occupants of the vehicle collided with and render to a person
12 injured in the accident reasonable assistance, including the carry-
13 ing of that person to a hospital or a physician for medical or surgi-
14 cal treatment, if it is apparent that the treatment is necessary or
15 is requested by the injured person.

16 **[A driver of a motor vehicle who, after being knowingly involved**
17 **in an accident resulting in injury or death to a pedestrian, shall**
18 **violate this section shall be fined in the sum of \$100.00, or be im-**
19 **prisoned for a period of 30 days, or both, for the first offense, and**
20 **for a subsequent offense shall be fined in the sum of \$500.00, or**
21 **be imprisoned for a period of 6 months, or both and any other**
22 **driver of a motor vehicle who violates this section shall be fined**
23 **not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00,-or be imprisoned for a**
24 **period of not more than 30 days, or both, for the first offense,**
25 **and for a subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than \$100.00**
26 **nor more than \$200.00, or be imprisoned for a period of not less**
27 **than 30 days nor more than 90 days, or both.**

28 A driver of a vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, who violates
29 this section shall be punished as provided in section 39:4-203 of
30 this Title.]

31 In the event that none of the persons specified are in condition
32 to receive the information to which they otherwise would be en-
33 titled under this subsection, and no police officer is present, the
34 driver of any vehicle involved in such accident after fulfilling all
35 other requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section,
36 insofar as possible on his part to be performed, shall forthwith
37 report such accident to the nearest office of the local police depart-
38 ment or of the county police of the county or of the State Police
39 and submit thereto the information specified in this subsection.

40 (d) The driver of any vehicle which collides with or is involved
41 in an accident with any vehicle or other property which is un-
42 attended resulting in any damage to such vehicle or other property
43 shall immediately stop and shall then and there locate and notify

1 the operator or owner of such vehicle or other property of the name
2 and address of the driver and owner of the vehicle striking the
3 unattended vehicle or other property or, in the event an unattended
4 vehicle is struck and the driver or owner thereof cannot be imme-
5 diately located, shall attach securely in a conspicuous place in or
6 on such vehicle a written notice giving the name and address of
7 the driver and owner of the vehicle doing the striking or, in the
8 event other property is struck and the owner thereof cannot be
9 immediately located, shall notify the nearest office of the local
10 police department or of the county police of the county or of the
11 State Police and in addition shall notify the owner of the property
12 as soon as the owner can be identified and located. Any person who
13 violates this subsection shall be punished as provided in subsection
14 (b) of this section.

15 2. Section 39:4-130 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read
16 as follows:

17 39:4-130. The driver of a vehicle or street car involved in an
18 accident resulting in injury to or death of any person, or damage
19 to property of any one person in excess of ~~[\$100.00]~~ \$200.00 shall
20 by the quickest means of communication give notice of such acci-
21 dent to the local police department or to the nearest office of the
22 county police of the county or of the State Police, and in addition
23 shall within 5 days after such accident forward a written report
24 of such accident to the division on forms furnished by it. Such
25 written reports shall contain sufficiently detailed information with
26 reference to a motor vehicle accident, including the cause, the con-
27 ditions then existing, the persons and vehicles involved and such
28 information as may be necessary to enable the director to determine
29 whether the requirements for the deposit of security required by
30 law are inapplicable by reason of the existence of insurance or other
31 circumstances. The director may rely upon the accuracy of the
32 information contained in any such report, unless he has reason
33 to believe that the report is erroneous. The division may require
34 operators involved in accidents to file supplemental reports of
35 accidents upon forms furnished by it when in the opinion of the
36 division, the original report is insufficient. The reports shall be
37 without prejudice, shall be for the information of the division, and
38 shall not be open to public inspection. The fact that the reports
39 have been so made shall be admissible in evidence solely to prove
40 a compliance with this section, but no report or any part thereof
41 or statement contained therein shall be admissible in evidence for
42 any other purpose in any proceeding or action arising out of the
43 accident.

1 Whenever the driver of a vehicle is physically incapable of giving
2 immediate notice or making a written report of an accident as
3 required in this section and there was another occupant in the
4 vehicle at the time of the accident capable of giving notice or
5 making a report, such occupant shall make or cause to be made
6 said notice or report not made by the driver.

7 Whenever the driver is physically incapable of making a written
8 report of an accident as required by this section and such driver
9 is not the owner of the vehicle, then the owner of the vehicle in-
10 volved in such accident shall make such report not made by the
11 driver.

12 *Any person who violates this section shall be punished as pro-*
13 *vided in subsection (b) of section 39:4-129 of the Revised Statutes.*

14 The director may revoke or suspend the operator's license priv-
15 ilege and registration privilege of a person who violates this section.

16 3. Section 39:4-131 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read
17 as follows:

18 39:4-131. The division shall prepare and supply to police de-
19 partments and other suitable agencies, forms for accident reports
20 calling for sufficiently detailed information with reference to a
21 motor vehicle accident, including the cause, the conditions then
22 existing, the persons and vehicles involved and such information
23 as [may be necessary to enable the director to determine whether
24 the requirements for the deposit of security required by law are
25 inapplicable by reason of the existence of insurance or other cir-
26 cumstances and such other information as may be necessary. The
27 director may rely upon the accuracy of the information contained
28 in any such report, unless he has reason to believe that the report
29 is erroneous. The division may require operators involved in acci-
30 dents to file supplemental reports of accidents upon forms fur-
31 nished by it when in the opinion of the division, the original report
32 is insufficient. The reports shall be without prejudice, shall be for
33 the information of the division, and shall not be open to public
34 inspection. The fact that the reports have been so made shall be
35 admissible in evidence solely to prove a compliance with this sec-
36 tion, but no report or any part thereof or statement contained
37 therein shall be admissible in evidence for any other purpose in
38 a proceeding or action arising out of the accident.] *the director*
39 *may require.*

40 *Every law enforcement officer who investigates a vehicle accident*
41 *of which report must be made as required in this Title, or who other-*
42 *wise prepares a written report as a result of an accident or there-*
43 *after by interviewing the participants or witnesses, shall forward*

1 a written report of such accident to the division, on forms furnished
2 by it, within 5 days after his investigation of the accident.

3 Such written reports required to be forwarded by law enforce-
4 ment officers and the information contained therein shall not be
5 privileged or held confidential.

6 4. Section 39:4-132 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 39:4-132. The person in charge of a garage or repair shop to
9 which is brought a motor vehicle which shows evidence of having
10 been involved in [a serious] an accident of which report must be
11 made by the driver thereof as provided in section 39:4-130 of the
12 Revised Statutes or of having been struck by a bullet shall report
13 to the nearest [police station or sheriff's] office of the local police
14 department or of the county police of the county or of the State
15 Police within 24 hours after the motor vehicle is received, giving
16 the [engine] serial number, registration number and, if known, the
17 name and address of the owner or operator of the vehicle.

18 Any person who shall violate this section shall be fined not less
19 than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 or be imprisoned for a period
20 of not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days, or both.

21 5. The duties and responsibilities imposed by the provisions of
22 this article upon all persons designated therein shall apply to acci-
23 dents occurring upon highways and elsewhere throughout the State.

24 6. Sections 39:4-9 and 39:4-133 of the Revised Statutes are
25 hereby repealed.

26 7. This act shall take effect immediately.