

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 39:4-56.8

(Towing services - required  
to remove debris from road)

LAWS OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 271

Bill No: S1563

Sponsor(s): O'Connor and Rodgers

Date Introduced: June 21, 1982

Committee: Assembly: Transportation and Communications

Senate: Transportation and Communications

Amended during passage: Yes Amendments during  
passage denoted by asterisks.

Date of Passage: Assembly: June 20, 1983

Senate: December 20, 1982

Date of Approval: July 18, 1983

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee statement: Assembly Yes

Senate Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on Signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

271 83  
7-18-83  
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**SENATE, No. 1563**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

INTRODUCED JUNE 21, 1982

By Senators O'CONNOR and RODGERS

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Communications

AN ACT concerning certain contracts with towing services and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1 1. a. *\*As\** used in this act:

2 (1) "Public entity" means the State, and any county, munici-  
3 pality, district, or political subdivision and any authority, agency,  
4 board or body thereof.

5 (2) "Public road or highway" means every street, road or high-  
6 way open to the use of the public for the purpose of vehicular  
7 travel.

8 (3) "Private entity" means any **[private authority, commission**  
9 **or other body]** *\*entity other than a public entity\** with jurisdiction  
10 over a road or highway in the State open to the use of the public.

11 b. Any towing service under contract to a public or private  
12 entity to tow disabled motor vehicles which *\*, after being called upon*  
13 *to remove a disabled motor vehicle,\** fails to remove from public  
14 roads or highways any motor vehicle debris or material **[when**  
15 **towing a disabled motor]** *\*in the area surrounding that\** vehicle  
16 shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than  
17 \$50.00 if the debris or material is likely to cause injury to a person  
18 operating a motor vehicle or substantial damage to another motor  
19 vehicle. A towing service shall not be required to remove any  
20 debris or material which may be hazardous such as oil, gasoline,  
21 kerosene or other petroleum or chemical products, or debris or  
22 material which the service is not equipped to remove.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

**Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:**

**\*—Senate committee amendments adopted November 29, 1982.**

## STATEMENT

This bill would require towing services under contract to municipalities, public agencies or private entities in this State to clean an area of potentially dangerous debris or material deposited on a public road or highway by motor vehicles disabled due to accident or mechanical defect when the towing service is called upon to remove a disabled motor vehicle from a public road or highway.

S1563(1982)

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
**SENATE, No. 1563**  
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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 14, 1983

This bill provides that any towing service under a towing contract to a public or private entity, such as the State, county or local government, would be required, after being called upon to remove a disabled motor vehicle, to remove motor vehicle debris or material from public roads or highways in the area surrounding that vehicle. The debris or material must be likely to cause injury to a person operating a motor vehicle or substantial damage to another motor vehicle, except that the towing service shall not be required to remove any debris or material which may be hazardous or debris or material which the service is not equipped to remove.

Any towing service which fails to comply with the provisions of this act is subject to a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$50.00 for each violation.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 1563**

with Senate committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 29, 1982

This bill as introduced provided that any towing service under a towing contract to a public or private entity, such as the State, county or local government or certain private authorities or commissions, would be required to remove motor vehicle debris or material from public roads or highways when towing a disabled motor vehicle. The debris or material must be likely to cause injury to a person operating a motor vehicle or substantial damage to another motor vehicle, except that the towing service shall not be required to remove hazardous material or material which the service is not equipped to remove.

Amendments by the committee limit the scope of the bill by providing that a towing service, after being called upon to remove a disabled vehicle, shall only be required to remove motor vehicle debris from the area surrounding the vehicle. Other amendments are clarifying and technical in nature.