

St. Louis City Ordinance 63796

FLOOR SUBSTITUTE

BOARD BILL NO. [96] 89

INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN MARIT CLARK , MARTIE J. ABOUSSIE , GREGORY CARTER , SHARON TYUS , VELMA GENE BAILEY , NANCY WEBER , MARY ROSS, CRAIG SCHMID , FRED WESSELS , STEPHEN GREGALI , MARGE VINING , JAMES F. SHREWSBURY , JOSEPH D. RODDY , JAMES C. SONDERMANN , ROBERT RUGGERI , IRVING C. CLAY, JR. , DANIEL M. GRUEN , BENNICIE JONES KING , KENNETH JONES

An ordinance pertaining to excessive noise emanating from vehicles, amending Ordinance 57831, approved April 19, 1979 and generally referred to as the Traffic Code of the City of St. Louis by repealing Section 827.190 of Section One of said Ordinance having as its subject matter excessive noise, and presently codified as Section 17.16.180 and enacting in lieu thereof an ordinance pertaining to the same subject matter and containing a penalty clause and an emergency clause.

WHEREAS, there has been a recent development throughout the City of drivers or passengers using radios, loud speakers, sound amplifiers, or other machines or devices for the production or reproduction of sound with louder volume than is necessary for convenient, normal hearing for the person or persons who are in the vehicle and who are voluntary listeners, and

WHEREAS, the sound is so loud and excessive that it hinders and impedes the drivers' ability to hear sirens or warning devices and therefore the driver fails to yield right-of-way to emergency vehicles which hinders traffic and the response time of emergency vehicles, and

WHEREAS, the sound is so loud and excessive that it drowns out sirens or other warning devices and may cause unnecessary accidents and is a hazard to traffic because the driver may be unable to hear said sirens or warning devices.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. Section 827.190 of Section One of Ordinance 57831, approved April 19, 1979 pertaining to excessive noise is hereby repealed, and enacting in lieu thereof a new ordinance pertaining to the same subject matter which shall read as follows.

SECTION TWO. 17.16.180 No driver or passenger in a vehicle shall use or allow any unnecessary excessive noise or use or allow to be used any radio, loud speaker, sound amplifier, or another machine or device, whether portable or installed on the vehicle, for the producing of sound or reproducing sound at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient, normal hearing for the person or persons who are in the vehicle in which the machine or device is being used or operated and who are voluntary listeners. The operation of any radio, loud speaker, sound amplifier, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of more than one hundred feet from such machine or device shall be excessive and shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

Any person who enters a plea of guilty or is found guilty of a violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by a term of imprisonment of not more than ninety (90) days or both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION THREE. Emergency Clause. This being an ordinance for the preservation of public peace, health and safety, it is hereby declared to be an emergency measure within the meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of Article IV of the Charter of the City of St. Louis and therefore this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Legislative History					
1ST READING	REF TO COMM	COMMITTEE	COMM SUB	COMM AMEND	VOTE
05/24/96	05/24/96	PS			
2ND READING	FLOOR AMEND	FLOOR SUB	VOTE	PERFECTN	PASSAGE
06/07/96				06/14/96	06/14/96
ORDINANCE	VETOED		VETO OVR		EFFECTIVE
63796					