

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5494

---

---

C 293 L 01  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Clarifying noise laws for motor vehicles.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen and McAuliffe).

**Senate Committee on Transportation**  
**House Committee on Transportation**

**Background:** In 1977, the Legislature enacted laws to make motor vehicle equipment requirements consistent with federal law. Currently, every motor vehicle must be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise. Current law also prohibits modification of an exhaust system of a motor vehicle in a way which will make the engine noise louder than the noise emitted by the muffler originally installed on the vehicle.

**Summary:** Modification of the exhaust system of a motor vehicle is prohibited if the modification violates Society of Automotive Engineers' standards regarding adequate muffling devices. This prohibition does not apply to passenger vehicles operated off highways in an organized racing or competitive event conducted by a recognized sanctioning body or to vehicles over 25 years old.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	37	0	
House	94	1	(House amended)
Senate	47	0	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** July 22, 2001