

**CHAPTER 531**

**(Senate Bill 464)**

AN ACT concerning

**Vehicle Laws - Noise Limitations - Penalty**

FOR the purpose of changing the penalty for a violation of the noise limitations on the use of sound amplification systems from a civil penalty to a criminal fine of up to a certain amount; and generally relating to vehicle laws and the penalty for noise violations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Transportation

Section 21-1122

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article - Transportation

Section 27-101(a) and (b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Transportation**

21-1122.

(a) In this section, "sound amplification system" means a compact disc player, a radio, a tape player, or a similar device.

(b) This section does not apply to:

- (1) Authorized emergency vehicles;
- (2) Vehicles operated by communications, electric, gas, or water utilities;
- (3) A sound amplification system operated to request assistance or to warn of a hazardous situation; or
- (4) Unless otherwise prohibited by local law, a sound amplification system used for advertising, parades, or for political or other special events.

(c) When a motor vehicle is being operated on a highway, the driver of the vehicle may not operate or permit the operation of a sound amplification system from the vehicle that can be heard outside the vehicle from 50 or more feet.