

- (i) consumer groups representing individuals who are blind, other pedestrians, and cyclists; and
 - (ii) advocates for the safety of children;
- (4) as appropriate, contract for additional research and studies to be conducted;
- (5) conduct hearings to accept testimony from:
- (i) experts on acoustics, automobile design, environmental quality, orientation and mobility for blind people, pedestrian safety, and other relevant fields; and
 - (ii) interested members of the public; and
- (6) make recommendations concerning:
- (i) a minimum sound level and the nature and characteristics of the minimum sound to be required for all new vehicles sold and licensed in the State; and
 - (ii) the use of technology to enhance the safety of blind pedestrians.

(g) The Task Force is not required to specify the method or technology through which automobile manufacturers must implement the recommended sound standard.

(h) On or before December 31, 2008, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and, at the end of December 31, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.

CHAPTER 386

(Senate Bill 281)