

Introduced by Senator Lowenthal

February 15, 2011

An act to amend Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 341, as amended, Lowenthal. Vehicles: dump trucks: backup alarms.

(1) Existing law requires a refuse or garbage truck to be equipped with an automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is capable of emitting an audible sound meeting specified requirements. *A violation of this requirement is a crime.*

This bill would additionally require a ~~dump truck, as defined, to be equipped with an automatic backup audible alarm~~ *commercial vehicle, as defined, with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), as defined, in excess of 14,000 pounds that transports material to and from a mine or construction site, or both, to be equipped with an automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than 200 feet. Because the bill would expand the scope of a crime, it would impose a state-mandated local program.*

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 27000 of the Vehicle Code is amended
 2 to read:
 3 27000. (a) A motor vehicle, when operated upon a highway,
 4 shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable
 5 of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance
 6 of not less than 200 feet, but no horn shall emit an unreasonably
 7 loud or harsh sound. An authorized emergency vehicle may be
 8 equipped with, and use in conjunction with the siren on that
 9 vehicle, an air horn that emits sounds that do not comply with the
 10 requirements of this section.
 11 (b) A refuse or garbage truck shall be equipped with an
 12 automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is
 13 capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from
 14 a distance of not less than 100 feet or shall be equipped with an
 15 automatic backup device that is in good working order, located at
 16 the rear of the vehicle and that immediately applies the service
 17 brake of the vehicle on contact by the vehicle with any obstruction
 18 to the rear. The backup device or alarm shall also be capable of
 19 operating automatically when the vehicle is in neutral or a forward
 20 gear but rolls backward.
 21 (c) A refuse or garbage truck, except a vehicle, known as a
 22 rolloff vehicle, that is used for the express purpose of transporting
 23 waste containers such as open boxes or compactors, purchased
 24 after January 1, 2010, shall also be equipped with a functioning
 25 camera providing a video display for the driver that enhances or
 26 supplements the drivers' view behind the truck for the purpose of
 27 safely maneuvering the truck.
 28 ~~(d) (1) A dump truck shall be equipped with an automatic~~
 29 ~~backup audible alarm that sounds on backing and is capable of~~
 30 ~~emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance~~
 31 ~~of not less than 200 feet.~~
 32 ~~(2) For the purposes of this subdivision, "dump truck" means~~
 33 ~~a commercial vehicle used to transport loose materials, such as~~
 34 ~~rock, sand, gravel, asphalt, or dirt, primarily for construction~~

1 ~~purposes, and includes a commercial vehicle used to pull a trailer~~
2 ~~transporting loose materials.~~

3 *(d) A commercial vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating*
4 *(GVWR) in excess of 14,000 pounds that transports materials to*
5 *and from a mine or construction site, or both, shall be equipped*
6 *with an automatic backup audible alarm that sounds on backing*
7 *and is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions*
8 *from a distance of not less than 200 feet.*

9 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
10 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
11 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
12 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
13 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
14 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
15 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
16 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
17 Constitution.