



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

# **Legislation aimed at silencing illegally modified motor vehicles and motorcycles passes NYS Senate and Assembly**

Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.

June 21, 2021

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The New York State Senate passed legislation (S.4783) co-sponsored by Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., to increase enforcement against motorists and repair shops that illegally modify mufflers and exhaust systems on motor vehicles and motorcycles to make them excessively noisy.

“Many constituent complaints received by my offices from a number of communities, including Middle Village, Howard Beach, Lindenwood, Woodhaven and Ozone Park, pertain to noise and illegal street drag racing,” Addabbo said. “Loud and excessive motor vehicle noise is not only annoying, it has become a quality of life issue which can contribute to impaired health conditions, such as hearing loss to exposed

individuals of all ages,” added Addabbo.

An increasing number of car and motorcycle enthusiasts are making modifications to the muffler, engine and exhaust systems of vehicles, in order to increase the noise and pollution levels emitted.

Current law allows for a maximum of a \$150 fine for after-market violations to muffler and exhaust systems. This fee is a relatively small amount when compared to other states, which is apparently not enough of a deterrent to many who are spending far more money to make modifications to their vehicles. This bill would increase the maximum fine to \$1,000 to create a larger deterrent to this behavior.

After receiving approval from the Senate and Assembly, the bill goes to the Governor’s desk for final consideration.