

ASSEMBLY, No. 2721

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 1997

By Assemblyman RUSSO

1 AN ACT concerning careless driving and amending R.S.39:4-97.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
4 of New Jersey:

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6 1. R.S.39:4-97 is amended to read as follows:

7 39:4-97. a. A person who drives a vehicle carelessly, or without  
8 due caution and circumspection, in a manner so as to endanger, or be  
9 likely to endanger, a person or property, shall be guilty of careless  
10 driving.

11 b. The driver of a vehicle shall be guilty of careless driving if  
12 accumulated ice or snow is dislodged from the vehicle and strikes  
13 another vehicle or pedestrian, causing injury or property damage.

14 (cf: P.L.1995, c.70, s.3)

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16 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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20 This bill is intended to prevent accidents which result when ice or  
21 snow dislodged from moving motor vehicles strikes other vehicles or  
22 pedestrians. These accidents, which have caused injury and death,  
23 may occur when the driver of a passenger vehicle or truck fails to  
24 remove accumulated snow or ice from the top of a vehicle. Under the  
25 bill, the driver of vehicle from which snow or ice falls and strikes  
26 another vehicle or pedestrian causing injury or property damage would  
27 be guilty of careless driving. This offense is punishable by a fine of  
28 not less than \$50 or more than \$200, imprisonment for a period not to  
29 exceed 15 days, or both. In addition, two motor vehicle points are  
30 assessed for this offense.

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34 Creates penalty for peril caused by ice dislodged from vehicle.

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**