

November 28, 1990  
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Introduced by: BRIAN DERDOWSKI  
BRUCE LAING  
Proposed No.: 91 - 450

ORDINANCE NO. **10070**

AN ORDINANCE defining engine compression brake control areas, prohibiting the use of engine compression brakes in certain areas, making a violation a traffic infraction, and adding a new Chapter to King County Code Title 46.

FINDING:

The King County Council finds that the use of motor vehicle brakes which are activated or operated by the compression of the engine of a motor vehicle disturbs and disrupts the public peace and quiet and, therefore, finds that it would be in the best public interest for the preservation of a healthy environment to prohibit the use of such brakes except in emergency situations. The King County Council finds that a variety of terrain and other road conditions may warrant the use of engine compression brakes in some circumstances in some areas of the County. Finally, the County Council finds that regulating the use of engine compression brakes addresses the way in which motor vehicles are operated on the roads and streets in King County and is, therefore, properly a traffic enforcement issue.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Definition

1. engine compression brake: a motor vehicle brake which is activated or worked by the compression of the engine of a motor vehicle.

2. engine compression brake control area: an area including streets, roads, or portions thereof, designated by ordinance under which this prohibition shall apply.

SECTION 2. Prohibition - Exception. The application of engine compression brakes in engine compression brake control areas is prohibited, except when necessary for the protection of persons and/or property which cannot be avoided by application of an alternative braking system.

SECTION 3. Violation - Penalty. Violation of this ordinance shall constitute a traffic infraction, and shall be punished by a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars per violation.

