

Comment from Aaron V

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this decision that will greatly impact the lives of likely every American. As a driver of both EV and modern combustion engine cars, modern combustion engine vehicles are exceptionally quiet. The noise created by air flowing over the vehicle and tires alone is enough that people recognize a car driving down the road or rolling down a driveway. I'm not sure this even matters anyway when most pedestrians have head phones on or distracted by their phones. Pedestrians wearing headphones or have a clear disregard for their safety must outnumber such visually impaired individuals by a googolplex, but I digress.

SOUNDS are meant to get ATTENTION. This can have the opposite good intention of safety and actually be dangerous DISTRACTIONS for both pedestrians and drivers. Cars historically make a certain sound that is expected and allowing people to deviate from that is dangerous! Sounds of future automobiles of all models can be STANDARDIZED and ultimately anticipated/expected to be quiet.

The academic research field is full of evidence showing noise to have an adverse health, economic and natural resource impact (e.g. hormones linked to diseases, lower property values, social inequality, wildlife loss, and low worker productivity and increased sick days from sleep deprivation are all linked to unexpected brief and chronic noise exposures). Noise also infringes upon private property freedoms/rights due to shared soundscapes.

With most Americans living in close proximity to roads and parking lots, any automobile sound should be STANDARDIZED so it is safely expected and respectful for all of society's quality of life, health and safety. Imagine a future where noise complaints are nonexistent while safety is still not compromised. This can be our future if you keep us safe and healthy by standardize and limit automobile sounds. Its not a huge leap considering driving is a privilege given to us by society and we must take a test and pass individual vehicle inspections for our license.

Legislation should be minimal and support/respect the greater good. In this case, the most important issue here is NOT to generate increasing pollution and danger to society that would occur from any array of new vehicle sounds/distractions each must continually learn