

City of Philadelphia



(Bill No. 030080)

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Chapter 12-400 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Right-of-Way Regulations and Penalties,” by increasing the penalty for violations of Section 12-407, which prohibits the operator of a vehicle from entering an intersection or crosswalk unless there is sufficient space beyond the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle without obstructing other vehicles or pedestrians, and by requiring that certain signs and painted stripes be installed at intersections designated by ordinance as “Don’t Block The Box” intersections; and by designating certain intersections in the City as “Don’t Block The Box” intersections; all under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 12-400 of The Philadelphia Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 12-400. RIGHT-OF-WAY REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES.

* * *

§12-407. Stop When Traffic Obstructed.

(1) No operator shall enter an intersection or crosswalk unless there is sufficient space beyond such intersection or crosswalk in the direction in which he is proceeding to accommodate his vehicle or street car without obstructing the passage of other vehicular traffic or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indication to proceed.

(2) *At all intersections designated by ordinance as “Don’t Block The Box” intersections, the Department shall, at the Discretion of the Streets Commissioner, paint stripes on the cartway indicating the area of the intersection into which a vehicle should not enter unless there is sufficient space beyond such area to accommodate the vehicle without obstructing other vehicles or pedestrians. The Department shall also, at the discretion of the Streets Commissioner, erect “Don’t Block The Box” signs at each such intersection, which signs shall set forth the penalty for violation of this Section.*

* * *

§12-409. Penalty.

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(1) Any person violating any of the provisions of Chapter 12-400 for which no penalty is provided in The Vehicle Code shall, upon summary conviction before a Magistrate, pay a fine of ten (10) dollars together with costs of prosecution, *except that the fine for a violation of the provisions of Section 12-407 shall be the maximum amount permitted by law.*

SECTION 2. Pursuant to §12-407(2) of The Philadelphia Code, as added by Section 1 of this Ordinance, the following intersections are hereby designated as “Don’t Block The Box” intersections:

- (a) All intersections on Market street from Tenth street to Twentieth street
- (b) All intersections on Fifteenth street from Locust street to Market street
- (c) All intersections on Walnut street from Sixteenth street to Eighteenth street
- (d) All intersections on Vine street from Broad street to Seventeenth street
- (e) All intersections on Eleventh street between Locust street and Filbert street
- (f) All intersections on Thirteenth street between Chestnut street and Filbert street
- (g) Sixteenth street and Chestnut street
- (h) Eighteenth street and Cherry street
- (i) Twentieth street and John F. Kennedy boulevard
- (j) Ninth street and Arch street
- (k) Tenth street and Market street
- (l) Broad street and Locust street

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Explanation:

Italics indicate new matter added.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Bill, Passed by the City Council on April 3, 2003. The Bill was Signed by the Mayor on April 24, 2003.



Patricia Rafferty
Chief Clerk of the City Council