

CITY OF GIG HARBOR  
ORDINANCE NO. 600

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON,  
PROHIBITING THE USE OF COMPRESSION BRAKES IN THE CITY EXCEPT  
IN EMERGENCIES; PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING  
THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO POST APPROPRIATE SIGNS; AND  
ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor finds  
that the use of motor vehicle brakes that 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 interests of  
the public health, safety, and general welfare to prohibit  
the use of such brakes except in emergency situations,

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor,  
Washington, ORDAINS as follows:

Section 1. A new chapter 10.14 is hereby added to the Gig  
Harbor Municipal Code, to read as follows:

10.14 Miscellaneous Traffic Provisions

10.14.010 Compression Brakes Prohibited. No person  
shall use motor vehicle brakes which are in any way  
activated or operated by the compression of the engine  
of any such motor vehicle or any unit or part thereof.  
It shall be an affirmative defense to prosecution under  
this section that said compression brakes were applied  
in an emergency and were necessary for the protection  
of persons and/or property.

10.14.020 Penalty for violations. Any person  
violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall  
be civilly liable for an infraction and shall be  
assessed a monetary penalty not to exceed two hundred  
fifty dollars (\$250.00).

Section 2. The Director of Public Works is authorized and  
directed to post appropriate signs consistent with the  
provisions of this ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor,  
Washington, and approved by its mayor at a regular meeting  
of the council held on this 13th day of May, 1991.

Gretchen A. Wilbert  
Gretchen A. Wilbert, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

Michael R. Wilson  
Michael R. Wilson  
City Administrator/Clerk

Filed with city clerk: 4/17/91  
Passed by city council: 5/13/91  
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