

Amendment to SB 631-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 AN ACT installing a sound barrier on Interstate 93 southbound and authorizing the sale of  
4 toll credits to fund a newly established noise barrier construction fund for the design  
5 and construction of noise barrier projects.

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7 Amend the bill by replacing all after section 1 with the following:

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9 2 New Section; Noise Barrier Construction Fund. Amend RSA 228 by inserting after section  
10 228:12-a the following new section:

11 228:12-b Noise Barrier Construction Fund.

12 I. Provided there are sufficient turnpike toll credits for the state match for the federal  
13 apportionment totals for 5 years based on the current federal fiscal year and the preceding 4 federal  
14 fiscal years, the commissioner is authorized in his or her discretion to sell up to \$10,000,000 per year  
15 in turnpike toll credits in compliance with federal rules and regulations and turnpike covenants,  
16 said sale being subject to the approval of the fiscal committee of the general court and the joint  
17 legislative capital project overview committee.

18 II. The revenue from the sale of the turnpike toll credits shall be deposited into a restricted  
19 fund to be established and known as the noise barrier construction fund, said revenue to be  
20 nonlapsing and continually appropriated to the department of transportation. Expenditures from  
21 the noise barrier construction fund made by the commissioner being subject to the approval of the  
22 fiscal committee of the general court and the joint legislative capital project overview committee.

23 III. The commissioner is authorized to use said revenue for the design and construction of  
24 noise barrier projects that meet the Type II noise barrier criteria set forth in the department's Policy  
25 and Procedural Guidelines for the Assessment and Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise for Type I &  
26 Type II Projects, as updated and amended. The commissioner may consider additional authorized  
27 adjustment factors for the determination of eligibility after consultation with an affected community  
28 concerning impacts to the community.

29 3 New Subparagraph; Dedicated Account; Noise Barrier Construction Fund. Amend RSA 6:12,  
30 I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (410) the following new subparagraph:

31 (411) Moneys in the noise barrier construction fund, established in RSA 228:12-b.

32 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Directs the department of transportation to install sound barriers along the southbound side of Interstate 93, between Pillsbury Road and the Exit 4 Southbound off-ramp.

II. Authorizes the sale of toll credits to fund a newly established noise barrier construction fund for the design and construction of noise barrier projects, provided that there are sufficient turnpike toll credits for the state match for certain federal apportionment totals.