

# Legal limit on vehicles idling set to be enforced

## Words in the article

1. **idling** to leave an engine running while stopped
2. **enforced** implemented, made to happen
3. **Environmental Protection Administration** (EPA) the agency in Taiwan set up to help protect the environment and give information
4. **violate** break a law
5. **regulation** a law
6. **amendment** change, revision
7. **Air Pollution Control Act** 空氣污染防制法
8. **legislature** the group of lawmakers in a country
9. **public forums** meetings with the public
10. **thrash out details** discuss details (also: hammer out details)
11. **measure** law or policy
12. **takes effect** start to be implemented, start to happen
13. **revised** changed, amended
14. **clause +** a detail within a law or policy
15. **exempt** free from, not included
16. **motorists** drivers
17. **temperatures** numbers showing the level of heat
18. **acknowledged** admitted, recognized
19. **sparked criticism** created criticism
20. what **was** the **point** of...A..if...B. 如果有...B...那, ...A...有什麼用?
21. **based** on the **outcome** of... according to the result of...
22. **public hearings** meetings with the public
23. **controversial** [sparking/creating] [controversy/debate]
24. **exemptions** exceptions (things not included)
25. **respectively** showing that a list of items connects with a previous list in the same order.  
*Example: Taipei and Gaoxiong are the first and second biggest cities in Taiwan respectively.*
26. **emissions** production or release (of pollution)
27. the **main source** of the biggest origin/creator of...
28. **air contaminants** air pollutants
29. **have a severe impact** on have a great influence on
30. **air quality** the [cleanliness/purity] of the air

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## Legal limit on vehicles idling set to be enforced

1. Starting next year, most vehicles will be banned from idling for more than three minutes while parked at the side of a road, the Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) said yesterday.
2. Drivers who violate the new regulation, aimed at reducing noise and air pollution from vehicles, including cars and motorcycles, will be fined between NT\$1,500 and NT\$60,000, Air Quality Protection and Noise Control Bureau Director-General Hsieh Yen-ju (謝燕儒) said.
3. The new regulation is part of an amendment to the Air Pollution Control Act (空氣污染防制法) that was passed by the legislature in April.
4. The EPA will sponsor public forums over the next three to six months to thrash out details before the measure takes effect, the agency said.
5. One detail that may be revised is a clause that would exempt motorists from the idling regulations when outdoor temperatures reach 30°C.
6. Hsieh acknowledged the clause has sparked criticism, with some wondering what was the point of having the law if it was not going to be enforced in hot weather.
7. He said it could be revised based on the outcome of the public hearings.
8. The regulation has other, less controversial, exemptions.
9. On-duty vehicles such as ambulances, vehicles transporting physically challenged people, TV station satellite news gathering vehicles and cranes, would not have to comply with the new rules.
10. Refrigerated vans and tour buses will be allowed to keep their engines running while parked for no longer than 30 minutes and 15 minutes respectively.
11. EPA statistics show that by the end of 2009, there were 21.17 million registered motor vehicles in the nation, including 14.6 million motorcycles and 6.77 million cars. Those numbers are rising at a rate of 1 to 3 percent annually.
12. Emissions from motor vehicles are the main source of air contaminants in urban areas, the EPA says, and have a severe impact on air quality and public health. Wed, Aug 10, 2011 Taipei Times

**Q1: Is this a good law?**

**Q2: Is this law easy to enforce?**

Some people are trying to get scooter drivers in Taipei to turn off their engines.



***If you turn off your scooter at red lights that are longer than 15 seconds...***

You WILL save money.

You WILL pollute less.

You WILL save petrol.

You WILL increase the lifespan of your scooter.

You Tube video: [Idle-Free Taipei](#)

**Q3: How can we get people to turn off their engines?**

**Q4: How about if the law is amended so that when scooters are not moving their engines must be off? Or should we reduce the legal idling time for scooters to 30 seconds?**

**Q5: When someone leaves their scooter running and they are stopped by the side of the road should we say something to them?**

This law was later amended to create more exemptions; for example taxis waiting in lines could still keep their engines running. See article below.

### **Regulations on idling vehicles amended: EPA**

By Lee I-chia / Staff reporter (Tue, Aug 28, 2012 Taipei Times)

The Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) yesterday announced an amendment to new regulations stipulating that drivers who leave their vehicles idling on the side of the road will be fined, saying that the amendments contain exemptions pertaining to a number of situations, such as when the temperature is higher than 30oC.

Regulations came into force on June 1 that prohibit vehicles from idling in parking lots and on roads for more than three minutes. Violators face fines of NT\$5,000 for large vehicles, NT\$3,000 for small vehicles and NT\$1,500 for motorcycles.

When the regulation was promulgated by the EPA, it said the main purpose of the regulation was to protect people's health by improving air quality while reducing fuel consumption.

However, the new regulations generated conflicting opinions over situations that should be excluded from the ban and the administration has opted to amend the regulation to better suit Taiwan's climate and habits, the administration said.

New exemptions to the legislation include idling taxis that are waiting in line along roadsides, situations in which passengers are getting into or leaving a vehicle and when a vehicle is experiencing a mechanical malfunction.

In addition, vehicles carrying small children, sightseeing buses and large vehicles carrying passengers are also excluded from the regulation.

The EPA said that the detailed content of the amendment has been posted on its official Web site and that the administration is to hold public hearings in the future to collect more input to make the regulations more complete.

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