

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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HOUSE BILL 1501
Committee Substitute Favorable 7/21/89
Third Edition Engrossed 7/25/89

Short Title: Car Bumper Heights.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 1, 1989

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REGULATE THE HEIGHTS OF FRONT BUMPERS OF MOTOR
3 VEHICLES OPERATED ON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
6 section to read:

7 "**§ 20-135.5. Bumper height.**

8 No four-wheeled motor vehicle shall be operated on the highways of this State
9 without bumpers on the front and rear of the vehicle. The front bumper must be no
10 higher than 28 inches above the pavement, with the distance measured from the
11 pavement to the bottom edge of the bumper with the tires on the vehicle properly
12 inflated. This section shall not apply to property hauling vehicles as defined in G.S. 20-
13 4.01(31)."

14 Sec. 2. G.S. 20-183.3(a) reads as rewritten:

15 "(a) Before an approval certificate may be issued for a motor vehicle, the vehicle
16 must be inspected by a safety equipment inspection station, and if required by Chapter
17 20 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, must be found to possess in safe operating
18 condition the following articles and equipment:

- 19 (1) Brakes,
- 20 (2) Lights,
- 21 (3) Horn,
- 22 (4) Steering mechanism,

- 1 (5) Windshield wiper,
- 2 (6) Directional signals,
- 3 (7) Tires,
- 4 (8) Rearview mirror or ~~mirrors~~ mirrors,
- 5 (9) Bumpers.

6 No inspection certificate shall be issued by a safety equipment inspection station for
7 a motor vehicle manufactured after model year 1967 unless the vehicle is equipped with
8 such emission control devices to reduce air pollution as were installed at the time of
9 manufacture which are readily visible, provided the foregoing requirements shall not
10 apply where such devices have been removed for the purpose of converting the motor
11 vehicle to operate on natural or liquified petroleum gas or other modifications have been
12 made in order to reduce air pollution, further provided that such modifications shall
13 have first been approved by the Department of Water and Air Resources [Department of
14 Natural Resources and Community Development].

15 In addition to the items listed above, safety inspection equipment stations shall
16 inspect the exhaust systems of all vehicles inspected and report the condition of each
17 exhaust system to the owners or to the persons offering the vehicles for inspection.

18 The inspection requirements herein provided for shall not exceed the standards
19 provided in the current General Statutes for such equipment."

20 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Motor
21 Vehicles the sum of \$5,000 to provide new inspection forms and instructions for each
22 inspection station in North Carolina to prepare for usage in October, 1990.

23 Sec. 4. This act shall become effective October 1, 1990.