

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SECOND EXTRA SESSION 1996**

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HOUSE BILL 67

Short Title: Left Turn on Red.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Hensley and Howard.

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Referred to: Rules.

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July 10, 1996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO ALLOW LEFT TURNS ON RED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS.  
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-158(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Control of Vehicles at Intersections. –

(1) When a stop sign has been erected or installed at an intersection, it shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to fail to stop in obedience thereto and yield the right-of-way to vehicles operating on the designated main-traveled or through highway. When stop signs have been erected at three or more entrances to an intersection, the driver, after stopping in obedience thereto, may proceed with caution.

(2) Vehicles facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection from a steady or strobe beam stoplight shall not enter the intersection while the steady or strobe beam stoplight is emitting a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection; ~~provided that, provided:~~

a. ~~except~~—Except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular traffic facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection, after coming to a complete stop at the intersection, may enter the intersection to make a right turn but ~~such~~ the turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and to other traffic using the ~~intersection~~ intersection; or

1           b.     Except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular  
2           traffic that is (i) in the leftmost lane of travel on a one-way  
3           street, (ii) facing a red light, and (iii) at an intersection with  
4           another one-way street with traffic travelling from right to left  
5           may enter the intersection and make a left turn into the extreme  
6           left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic but the turning  
7           vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and to other  
8           traffic using the intersection.

9           When the stoplight is emitting a steady yellow circular light on a  
10          traffic signal controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection  
11          or a steady yellow arrow light on a traffic signal controlling traffic  
12          turning at an intersection, vehicles facing the yellow light are warned  
13          that the related green light is being terminated or a red light will be  
14          immediately forthcoming. When the stoplight is emitting a steady  
15          green light, vehicles may proceed with due care through the  
16          intersection subject to the rights of pedestrians and other vehicles as  
17          may otherwise be provided by law.

18          (3)     When a flashing red light has been erected or installed at an  
19          intersection, approaching vehicles facing the red light shall stop and  
20          yield the right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.  
21          The right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable to making  
22          a stop at a stop sign.

23          (4)     When a flashing yellow light has been erected or installed at an  
24          intersection, approaching vehicles facing the yellow flashing light may  
25          proceed through the intersection with caution, without stopping,  
26          yielding the right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the  
27          intersection.

28          (5)     When a stop sign, stoplight, flashing light, or other traffic-control  
29          device authorized by subsection (a) of this section requires a vehicle to  
30          stop at an intersection, the driver shall stop at (i) an appropriately  
31          marked stop line, or if none, (ii) before entering a marked crosswalk,  
32          or if none, (iii) before entering the intersection at the point nearest the  
33          intersecting street where the driver has a view of approaching traffic  
34          on the intersecting street."

35          Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of  
36          Services for the Blind, Department of Human Resources, the sum of ten thousand  
37          dollars (\$10,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for educational programs to assist visually  
38          impaired persons to prepare for the implementation of Section 1 of this act.

39          Sec. 3. Section 1 of this act becomes effective December 1, 1996. The  
40          remaining sections of this act become effective July 1, 1996.