

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 815

Short Title: Left Turn on Red.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hensley, Gulley, Howard, and McAllister.

Referred to: Judiciary II.

April 1, 1999

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

1 ~~such~~—the turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to
2 pedestrians and to other traffic using the ~~intersection~~—intersection;
3 or

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

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

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

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

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

37 Section 2. There is appropriated from the Highway Fund to the Department of
38 Transportation the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the 1999-2000 fiscal year
39 for the signage necessary to implement Section 1 of this act.

40 Section 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.