

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 1999

SESSION LAW 1999-310
SENATE BILL 527

AN ACT TO PERMIT LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO PREEMPT TRAFFIC SIGNALS
ON CITY STREETS AND STATE HIGHWAYS IN EMERGENCY
SITUATIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-169 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-169. Powers of local authorities.

Local authorities, except as expressly authorized by G.S. 20-141 and 20-158, shall have no power or authority to alter any speed limitations declared in this Article or to enact or enforce any rules or regulations contrary to the provisions of this Article, except that local authorities shall have power to provide by ordinances for any of the following:

- (1) ~~the regulation of~~ Regulating traffic by means of traffic or semaphores or other signaling devices on any portion of the highway where traffic is heavy or ~~continuous and may prohibit continuous.~~
- (2) Prohibiting other than one-way traffic upon certain ~~highways, and may regulate highways.~~
- (3) Regulating the use of the highways by processions or ~~assemblages and except that local authorities shall have the power to regulate assemblages.~~
- (4) Regulating the speed of vehicles on highways in public ~~parks, but signs parks.~~
- (5) Authorizing law enforcement or fire department vehicles, ambulances, and rescue squad emergency service vehicles, equipped with a siren to preempt any traffic signals upon city streets within local authority boundaries or, with the approval of the Department of Transportation, on State highways within the boundaries of local authorities. The Department of Transportation shall respond to requests for approval within 60 days of receipt of a request.

Signs shall be erected giving notices of such the special limits and regulations-regulations under subdivisions (1) through (4) of this section."

Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 8th day of July, 1999.

s/ Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ James B. Black
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ James B. Hunt, Jr.
Governor

Approved 9:34 p.m. this 15th day of July, 1999