

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 815
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/23/99

Short Title: Left Turn on Red.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 1, 1999

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW LEFT TURNS ON RED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS AND TO
3 APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR SIGNAGE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE
4 ACT.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

7 "(b) Control of Vehicles at Intersections. –

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

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

- 1 a. ~~except~~ Except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular
2 traffic facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight
3 through an intersection, after coming to a complete stop at the
4 intersection, may enter the intersection to make a right turn but
5 ~~such~~ the turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to
6 pedestrians and to other traffic using the ~~intersection~~ intersection;
7 or
8 b. Except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular traffic
9 that is (i) in the leftmost lane of travel on a one-way street, (ii)
10 facing a red light, and (iii) at an intersection with another one-
11 way street with traffic travelling from the turning driver's right to
12 the turning driver's left may enter the intersection and make a left
13 turn into the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic.
14 The turning vehicle shall come to a complete stop and shall yield
15 the right-of-way to pedestrians and to other traffic using the
16 intersection.

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

- 26 (3) When a flashing red light has been erected or installed at an intersection,
27 approaching vehicles facing the red light shall stop and yield the right-
28 of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection. The right to
29 proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable to making a stop at a
30 stop sign.
31 (4) When a flashing yellow light has been erected or installed at an
32 intersection, approaching vehicles facing the yellow flashing light may
33 proceed through the intersection with caution, yielding the right-of-way
34 to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.
35 (5) When a stop sign, stoplight, flashing light, or other traffic-control device
36 authorized by subsection (a) of this section requires a vehicle to stop at
37 an intersection, the driver shall stop at (i) an appropriately marked stop
38 line, or if none, (ii) before entering a marked crosswalk, or if none, (iii)
39 before entering the intersection at the point nearest the intersecting
40 street where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the
41 intersecting street."

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

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