

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

S

3

SENATE BILL 172

Judiciary I Committee Substitute Adopted 4/19/99

House Committee Substitute Favorable 5/26/99

Short Title: Clarify Blue Lights Illegal.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 25, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO CLARIFY WHEN THE POSSESSION OF BLUE LIGHTS IS ILLEGAL.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-130.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-130.1. Use of red or blue lights on vehicles prohibited; exceptions.

(c) It is unlawful for any person to ~~install or activate or operate a blue light in or on any vehicle in this State. It is unlawful for any person to possess a blue light in or on any vehicle in this State.~~ possess a blue light or to install, activate, or operate a blue light in or on any vehicle in this State, except for a publicly owned vehicle used primarily for law enforcement purposes or any other vehicle used by a public official or law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties. As used in this subsection, unless the context requires otherwise, "blue light" means an operable blue light ~~not sealed in the manufacturer's original package~~ which:

- (1) Is not (i) being installed on, held in inventory for the purpose of being installed on, or held in inventory for the purpose of sale for installation on a vehicle on which it may be lawfully operated or (ii) installed on a

- 1 vehicle which is used solely for the purpose of demonstrating the blue
2 light for sale to law enforcement personnel;
3 (1a) Is designed for use by an emergency vehicle, or is similar in appearance
4 to a blue light designed for use by an emergency vehicle; and
5 (2) Can be operated by use of the vehicle's battery, the vehicle's electrical
6 system, or a dry cell battery.
7 ~~(d) The provisions of subsection (c) of this section do not apply to a publicly~~
8 ~~owned vehicle used primarily for law enforcement purposes or any other vehicle used~~
9 ~~primarily by law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties."~~
10 Section 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 1999, and applies to
11 offenses committed on or after that date.