

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**HOUSE BILL 26  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/31/03**

Short Title: Camera Defeating License Covers Illegal.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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February 17, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THAT DEVICES DESIGNED TO COVER REGISTRATION  
3 PLATES TO PREVENT THE TAKING OF A CLEAR PHOTOGRAPH BY  
4 TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS USING CAMERAS ARE UNLAWFUL.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-63(g) reads as rewritten:

7 "(g) Alteration, Disguise, or Concealment of Numbers. – Any operator of a motor  
8 vehicle who shall willfully mutilate, bend, twist, cover or cause to be covered or  
9 partially covered by any bumper, light, spare tire, tire rack, strap, or other device,  
10 including any device designed or intended to prevent or interfere with the taking of a  
11 clear photograph of a registration plate by a traffic control system using cameras, or  
12 who shall paint, enamel, emboss, stamp, print, perforate, or alter or add to or cut off any  
13 part or portion of a registration plate or the figures or letters thereon, or who shall place  
14 or deposit or cause to be placed or deposited any oil, grease, or other substance upon  
15 such registration plates for the purpose of making dust adhere thereto, or who shall  
16 deface, disfigure, change, or attempt to change any letter or figure thereon, or who shall  
17 display a number plate in other than a horizontal upright position, shall be guilty of a  
18 Class 2 misdemeanor. Any operator of a motor vehicle who shall otherwise  
19 intentionally cover any number or registration renewal sticker on a registration plate  
20 with any material that makes the number or registration renewal sticker illegible  
21 commits an infraction and shall be fined under G.S. 14-3.1. Nothing in this subsection  
22 shall prohibit the use of clear covers that are not designed or intended to prevent or  
23 interfere with the taking of a clear photograph of a registration plate by a traffic control  
24 system using cameras."

25 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2003, and applies to acts  
26 committed on or after that date.