

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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SENATE DRS35201-LK-109 (3/21)

Short Title: DMV-NCDL/Registration Extensions.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Rand.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO ISSUE
DRIVERS LICENSES VALID FOR UP TO EIGHT YEARS AND TO ISSUE
REGISTRATION PLATES VALID FOR UP TO TWO YEARS AS
RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNOR'S EFFICIENCY COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-7(f) reads as rewritten:

"(f) Expiration and Temporary License. – The first drivers license the Division issues to a person expires on the person's fourth or subsequent birthday that occurs after the license is issued and on which the individual's age is evenly divisible by five, unless this subsection sets a different expiration date. A first drivers license may be issued for a shorter duration if the Division determines that a license of shorter duration should be issued when the applicant holds a visa of limited duration issued by the United States Department of State. The first drivers license the Division issues to a person who is at least 17 years old but is less than 18 years old expires on the person's twentieth birthday. The first drivers license the Division issues to a person who is at least 62 years old expires on the person's birthday in the fifth year after the license is issued, whether or not the person's age on that birthday is evenly divisible by five.

A drivers license that was issued by the Division and is renewed by the Division expires ~~five-eight~~ years after the expiration date of the license that is renewed unless the Division determines that a license of shorter duration should be issued when the applicant holds a visa of limited duration from the United States Department of State. A person may apply to the Division to renew a license during the 180-day period before the license expires. The Division may not accept an application for renewal made before the 180-day period begins.

The Division may renew by mail a drivers license issued by the Division to a person who meets any of the following descriptions:

- 1 (1) Is serving on active duty in the armed forces of the United States and
- 2 is stationed outside this State.
- 3 (2) Is a resident of this State and has been residing outside the State for at
- 4 least 30 continuous days.

5 When renewing a license by mail, the Division may waive the examination that
 6 would otherwise be required for the renewal and may impose any conditions it finds
 7 advisable. A license renewed by mail is a temporary license that expires 60 days after
 8 the person to whom it is issued returns to this State."

9 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-66(a) reads as rewritten:

10 "(a) ~~Annual-Biennial~~ Renewal. – The registration of a vehicle ~~must~~shall be
 11 renewed ~~annually~~every two years. To renew the registration of a vehicle, the owner of
 12 the vehicle ~~must~~shall file an application with the Division and pay the required
 13 registration fee. The Division may receive and grant an application for renewal of
 14 registration at any time before the registration expires."

15 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 20-87 reads as rewritten:

16 "**§ 20-87. Passenger vehicle registration fees.**

17 These shall be paid to the Division ~~annually~~, as of the first day of January, for the
 18 registration and licensing of passenger vehicles, fees according to the following
 19 classifications and ~~schedules~~schedules, which are based on the applicable annual rate:

- 20 (1) For-Hire Passenger Vehicles. – The fee for a passenger vehicle that is
- 21 operated for compensation and has a capacity of 15 passengers or less
- 22 is seventy-eight dollars (\$78.00). The fee for a passenger vehicle that
- 23 is operated for compensation and has a capacity of more than 15
- 24 passengers is one dollar and forty cents (\$1.40) per hundred pounds of
- 25 empty weight of the vehicle.
- 26 (2) U-Drive-It Vehicles. – U-drive-it vehicles shall pay the following tax:
- 27 Motorcycles: 1-passenger capacity \$18.00
- 28 2-passenger capacity 22.00
- 29 3-passenger capacity 26.00
- 30 Automobiles: 15 or fewer passengers \$41.00
- 31 Buses: 16 or more passengers \$1.40
- 32 per hundred
- 33 pounds of empty weight
- 34 Trucks under 7,000
- 35 pounds that do not haul
- 36 products for hire: 4,000 pounds \$41.50
- 37 5,000 pounds \$51.00
- 38 6,000 pounds \$61.00.

- 39 (3) Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 976, s. 3.
- 40 (4) Limousine Vehicles. – For-hire passenger vehicles on call or demand
- 41 which do not solicit passengers indiscriminately for hire between
- 42 points along streets or highways, shall be taxed at the same rate as
- 43 for-hire passenger vehicles under G.S. 20-87(1) but shall be issued

- 1 appropriate registration plates to distinguish such vehicles from
2 taxicabs.
- 3 (5) Private Passenger Vehicles. – There shall be paid to the Division
4 annually, as of the first day of January, for the registration and
5 licensing of private passenger vehicles, fees according to the following
6 classifications and schedules:
7 Private passenger vehicles of not more than fifteen
8 passengers \$20.00
9 Private passenger vehicles over fifteen passengers 23.00
10 Provided, that a fee of only one dollar (\$1.00) shall be charged for any
11 vehicle given by the federal government to any veteran on account of
12 any disability suffered during war so long as such vehicle is owned by
13 the original donee or other veteran entitled to receive such gift under
14 Title 38, section 252, United States Code Annotated.
- 15 (6) Private Motorcycles. – The base fee on private passenger motorcycles
16 shall be nine dollars (\$9.00); except that when a motorcycle is
17 equipped with an additional form of device designed to transport
18 persons or property, the base fee shall be sixteen dollars (\$16.00). An
19 additional fee of three dollars (\$3.00) is imposed on each private
20 motorcycle registered under this subdivision in addition to the base
21 fee. The revenue from the additional fee, in addition to any other funds
22 appropriated for this purpose, shall be used to fund the Motorcycle
23 Safety Instruction Program created in G.S. 115D-72.
- 24 (7) Dealer License Plates. – The fee for a dealer license plate is the regular
25 fee for each of the first five plates issued to the same dealer and is
26 one-half the regular fee for each additional dealer license plate issued
27 to the same dealer. The "regular fee" is the fee set in subdivision (5) of
28 this section for a private passenger motor vehicle of not more than 15
29 passengers.
- 30 (8) Driveaway Companies. – Any person engaged in the business of
31 driving new motor vehicles from the place of manufacture to the place
32 of sale in this State for compensation shall pay a fee of one-half of the
33 amount that would otherwise be payable under this section for each set
34 of plates.
- 35 (9) House Trailers. – In lieu of other registration and license fees levied on
36 house trailers under this section or G.S. 20-88, the registration and
37 license fee on house trailers shall be seven dollars (\$7.00) for the
38 license year or any portion thereof.
- 39 (10) Special Mobile Equipment. – The fee for special mobile equipment for
40 the license year or any part of the license year is two times the fee in
41 subdivision (5) for a private passenger motor vehicle of not more than
42 15 passengers.

- 1 (11) Any vehicle fee determined under this section according to the weight
2 of the vehicle shall be increased by the sum of three dollars (\$3.00) to
3 arrive at the total fee.
- 4 (12) Low-Speed Vehicles. – The fee for a low-speed vehicle is the same as
5 the fee for private passengers vehicles of not more than 15
6 passengers."

7 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.