

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE BILL 1681*

Short Title: Smoke-Free Motor Fleet.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Purcell, Dorsett, Forrester; and Snow.

Referred to: Health Care.

May 20, 2008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE AUTOMOBILES IN THE STATE MOTOR FLEET TO BE SMOKE-FREE; AND TO AUTHORIZE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REQUIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT-OWNED VEHICLES TO BE SMOKE-FREE, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JUSTUS-WARREN HEART DISEASE AND STROKE PREVENTION TASK FORCE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 130A-491 reads as rewritten:

"§ 130A-491. **Legislative intent.**

It is the intent of the General Assembly to protect the health of individuals working in or visiting State government buildings from the risks related to secondhand smoke. It is further the intent of the General Assembly to protect the health of individuals driving or riding in State-owned passenger-carrying vehicles assigned temporarily or permanently by the Department of Administration, Motor Pool Division, to State employees or State agencies or institutions for official State business."

SECTION 2. G.S. 130A-492 reads as rewritten:

"§ 130A-492. **Definitions.**

The following definitions apply in this Article:

- (1) "Smoking". – The use or possession of a lighted cigarette, lighted cigar, lighted pipe, or any other lighted tobacco product.
- (2) "State government". – The political unit for the State of North Carolina, including all agencies of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government.
- (3) "State government building". – A building owned, leased as lessor, or the area leased as lessee and occupied by State government.
- (4) "Vehicle". – A passenger-carrying vehicle owned by the State and assigned by the Department of Administration, Motor Pool Division, permanently or temporarily to a State employee or State agency or institution for official State business."

1 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 130A-493 reads as rewritten:

2 "**§ 130A-493. Smoking in State government buildings and State-owned**
3 **passenger-carrying vehicles prohibited.**

4 (a) Notwithstanding Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes pertaining
5 to State-controlled buildings, smoking is prohibited inside State government buildings
6 as provided in this section. As to smoking rooms in residence halls that were permitted
7 by G.S. 143-597(a)(6), this Article becomes effective beginning with the 2008-2009
8 academic year.

9 (b) Smoking is permitted inside State government buildings that are used for
10 medical or scientific research to the extent that smoking is an integral part of the
11 research. Smoking permitted under this subsection shall be confined to the area where
12 the research is being conducted.

13 (c) The individual in charge of the State government building or the individual's
14 designee shall post signs in conspicuous areas of the building. The signs shall state that
15 "smoking is prohibited" and may include the international "No Smoking" symbol,
16 which consists of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle
17 with a red bar across it. In addition, in any State psychiatric hospital, the person who
18 owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls the hospital shall:

19 (1) Direct any person who is smoking inside the facility to extinguish the
20 lighted smoking product.

21 (2) Provide written notice to individuals upon admittance that smoking is
22 prohibited inside the facility and obtain the signature of the individual
23 or the individual's representative acknowledging receipt of the notice.

24 (c1) Smoking is prohibited inside State-owned passenger-carrying vehicles
25 assigned permanently or temporarily by the Department of Administration, Motor Pool
26 Division, to State employees or State agencies or institutions for official State business.
27 The individual or the individual's designee in charge of assigning the vehicle shall place
28 one or more signs in conspicuous areas of the vehicle. The signs shall state that
29 "smoking is prohibited" and may include the international "No Smoking" symbol,
30 which consists of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle
31 with a red bar across it.

32 (d) Notwithstanding G.S. 130A-25, a violation of Article 23 of this Chapter shall
33 not be punishable as a criminal violation."

34 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 130A-498 reads as rewritten:

35 "**§ 130A-498. Local governments may restrict smoking in public places.**

36 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the
37 General Statutes to the contrary, a local government may adopt an ordinance, law, or
38 rule restricting smoking in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

39 (b) Any local ordinance, law, or rule authorized under this section may restrict
40 smoking only in:

41 (1) Buildings owned, leased as lessor, or the area leased as lessee and
42 occupied by local government;

43 (2) Building and grounds wherein local health departments and
44 departments of social services are housed;

- 1 (3) **(Repealed effective August 1, 2008)** Public schools, school facilities,
2 on school campuses, at school-related or school-sponsored events, in
3 or on other school property, public school buses, or at day care centers.
4 Such restrictions may be imposed by local school boards having
5 ownership or jurisdiction over the building, campus, event, property,
6 or vehicle;~~and~~
7 (4) Any place on a public transportation vehicle owned or leased by local
8 government and used by the ~~public~~public; and
9 (5) Any place on a passenger-carrying vehicle owned by local government
10 and assigned temporarily or permanently by local government to local
11 government employees, agencies, institutions, or facilities for official
12 local government business.
13 (c) As used in this Part, "local government" means any local political subdivision
14 of this State, any airport authority, or any authority or body created by any ordinance,
15 joint resolution, or rules of any such entity.
16 (d) As used in this Part, "grounds" means the area located within 50 linear feet of
17 a building wherein a local health department or a local department of social services is
18 housed.
19 (e) A county ordinance adopted under this section is subject to the provisions of
20 G.S. 153A-122."
21 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.