

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE BILL 147
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/19/03

Short Title: Left Turn on Red.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 27, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PERMIT LEFT TURNS ON RED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

"(b) Control of Vehicles at Intersections. –

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

(2) ~~Vehicles facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection from a steady or strobe beam stoplight shall not enter the intersection while the steady or strobe beam stoplight is emitting a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection; provided that, except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular traffic facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection, after coming to a complete stop at the intersection, may enter the intersection to make a right turn but such vehicle shall yield the right of way to pedestrians and to other traffic using the intersection.~~ When a steady or strobe beam stoplight is emitting a red light controlling traffic passing through an intersection, an approaching vehicle facing the red light shall come to a stop and shall not enter the intersection. After coming to a complete stop and unless prohibited by an appropriate sign, that approaching vehicle may turn under one of the following conditions:

a. That vehicle may make a right turn. The turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and to other traffic using the intersection.

1 b. If that vehicle is in the leftmost lane of travel on a one-way
2 street that intersects with another one-way street with traffic
3 traveling from the turning driver's right to the turning driver's
4 left, then that vehicle may enter the intersection and make a left
5 turn into the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic.
6 The turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
7 and to other traffic using the intersection.

8 (2a) When ~~the~~ a stoplight is emitting a steady yellow circular light on a
9 traffic signal controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection
10 or a steady yellow arrow light on a traffic signal controlling traffic
11 turning at an intersection, vehicles facing the yellow light are warned
12 that the related green light is being terminated or a red light will be
13 immediately forthcoming. When the stoplight is emitting a steady
14 green light, vehicles may proceed with due care through the
15 intersection subject to the rights of pedestrians and other vehicles as
16 may otherwise be provided by law.

17 (3) When a flashing red light has been erected or installed at an
18 intersection, approaching vehicles facing the red light shall stop and
19 yield the right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.
20 The right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable to making
21 a stop at a stop sign.

22 (4) When a flashing yellow light has been erected or installed at an
23 intersection, approaching vehicles facing the yellow flashing light may
24 proceed through the intersection with caution, yielding the
25 right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.

26 (5) When a stop sign, stoplight, flashing light, or other traffic-control
27 device authorized by subsection (a) of this section requires a vehicle to
28 stop at an intersection, the driver shall stop (i) at an appropriately
29 marked stop line, or if none, (ii) before entering a marked crosswalk,
30 or if none, (iii) before entering the intersection at the point nearest the
31 intersecting street where the driver has a view of approaching traffic
32 on the intersecting street."

33 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2003.