

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

FILED SENATE
Apr 1, 2013
S.B. 568
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE DRS15162-ML-126A (03/14)

Short Title: Bioptic Lenses for Drivers License Tests. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Brock (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE USE OF BIOPTIC LENSES WHEN TESTING FOR A
3 DRIVERS LICENSE AND THE ISSUANCE OF A RESTRICTED LICENSE TO AN
4 INDIVIDUAL THAT PASSES CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AFTER PASSING THE
5 DRIVERS LICENSE EYE TEST.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-7 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

8 "(t) Use of Bioptic Telescopic Lenses. –

9 (1) An applicant using bioptic telescopic lenses shall be eligible for a regular
10 drivers license under this section if the applicant meets all of the following:

11 a. Demonstrates a visual acuity of at least 20/200 in one or both eyes
12 and a field of 70 degrees horizontal vision with or without corrective
13 carrier lenses, or if the person has vision in one eye only, the person
14 demonstrates a field of at least 40 degrees temporal and 30 degrees
15 nasal horizontal vision.

16 b. Demonstrates a visual acuity of at least 20/70 in one or both eyes
17 with the bioptic telescopic lenses and without the use of field
18 expanders.

19 c. Provides a report of examination by an ophthalmologist or
20 optometrist on a form prescribed by the Division for the Division to
21 determine if all field of vision requirements are met or additional
22 testing is needed.

23 d. Meets all other criteria for licensure.

24 (2) Applicants using bioptic telescopic lenses shall be eligible for a limited
25 learner's permit or provisional drivers license issued pursuant to G.S. 20-11,
26 provided the requirements of this subsection are met and any other required
27 testing or documentation is completed and submitted with the application.

28 (3) Applicants issued a regular drivers license, limited learner's permit, or
29 provisional drivers license, after using bioptic telescopic lenses for the eye
30 test, shall be subject to the following restrictions on the license issued:

31 a. The license or permit holder shall not be eligible for any
32 endorsements.

33 b. The license or permit shall permit the operation of motor vehicles
34 only during the period beginning one-half hour after sunrise and
35 ending one-half hour before sunset.



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1 (4) Applicants issued a regular drivers license, after using bioptic telescopic
2 lenses for the eye test, may drive motor vehicles between the period
3 beginning one-half hour before sunset and ending one-half hour after sunrise
4 if the applicant meets the following requirements:

5 a. Demonstrates a visual acuity of at least 20/40 in one or both eyes
6 with the bioptic telescopic lenses and without the use of field
7 expanders.

8 b. Provides a report of examination by an ophthalmologist or
9 optometrist in accordance with sub-subdivision c. of subdivision (1)
10 of this subsection that does not recommend restricting the applicant
11 to driving a motor vehicle only during the period beginning one-half
12 hour after sunrise and ending one-half hour before sunset.

13 Nothing in this subsection shall require the Division to issue licenses or permits applied for,
14 pursuant to the requirements of this section, at any location other than the Division's
15 headquarters office in Raleigh. The Division may select additional offices throughout the State
16 as sites for testing allowed pursuant to this subsection."

17 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.