

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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SENATE BILL 568
Transportation Committee Substitute Adopted 4/24/13
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/18/13

Short Title: Bioptic Lenses for Drivers License Tests.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 2, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW THE ISSUANCE OF A RESTRICTED LICENSE TO AN
3 INDIVIDUAL THAT MEETS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF
4 BIOPTIC TELESCOPIC LENSES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

8 (1) An applicant using bioptic telescopic lenses shall be eligible for a regular
9 Class C drivers license under this section if the applicant meets all of the
10 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. Successfully passes a road test administered by the Division.

24 e. Meets all other criteria for licensure.

25 (2) In addition to the requirements listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection,
26 the Division shall require an applicant using bioptic telescopic lenses to
27 successfully complete a behind-the-wheel training and assessment program
28 prescribed by the Division.

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

33 (4) Applicants issued a regular Class C drivers license, limited learner's permit,
34 or provisional drivers license shall be subject to the following restrictions on
35 the license issued:



- 1 a. The license or permit holder shall not be eligible for any
- 2 endorsements.
- 3 b. The license or permit shall permit the operation of motor vehicles
- 4 only during the period beginning one-half hour after sunrise and
- 5 ending one-half hour before sunset.
- 6 (5) Applicants issued a regular Class C drivers license may drive motor vehicles
- 7 between the period beginning one-half hour before sunset and ending
- 8 one-half hour after sunrise if the applicant meets the following requirements:
- 9 a. Demonstrates a visual acuity of at least 20/40 in one or both eyes
- 10 with the bioptic telescopic lenses and without the use of field
- 11 expanders.
- 12 b. Provides a report of examination by an ophthalmologist or
- 13 optometrist in accordance with sub-subdivision c. of subdivision (1)
- 14 of this subsection that does not recommend restricting the applicant
- 15 to driving a motor vehicle only during the period beginning one-half
- 16 hour after sunrise and ending one-half hour before sunset."

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