



HOUSE BILL 60: Passing Slow Moving Vehicles

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation	Date:	March 3, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Elmore, R. Brown, Zachary	Prepared by:	Wendy Graf Ray
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H60-CSSU-1		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *The Proposed Committee Substitute for House Bill 60 would allow a vehicle to pass a slower moving vehicle on a portion of a highway that is otherwise marked as a no passing zone if the passing is done in accordance with certain requirements.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 20-149 allows for the overtaking and passing of one vehicle by another when the vehicles are proceeding in the same direction on the highway. G.S. 20-149(a) specifies that an overtaking vehicle must pass at least two feet to the left of the slower vehicle and shall not move back to the right side of the highway until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle. G.S. 20-150 provides limitations on the privilege of overtaking and passing. Subsection (e) prohibits passing on any portion of the highway that is marked by signs or markers placed by the Department of Transportation indicating that passing should not be attempted. Violation of the prohibition on passing is an infraction.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for House Bill 60 would provide for an exception to G.S. 20-150(e), allowing a vehicle to overtake and pass another vehicle on a portion of the highway that is marked as a no passing zone, if the overtaking and passing is done in accordance with all of the following:

- The vehicle to be passed is going less than half the posted speed limit.
- The overtaking vehicle passes without exceeding the speed limit.
- The overtaking vehicle passes at least two feet to the left of the slower vehicle.
- The highway left of center is clearly visible and free of oncoming traffic for a sufficient distance to permit safe passing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective December 1, 2015, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

