

HOUSE BILL 21: Driver Instruction/Law Enforcement Stops.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12	Date:	April 25, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Goodman, Faircloth, McNeill, Earle	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw*
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: The 2nd Edition of House Bill 21 would require the Division of Motor Vehicles to include a description of law enforcement traffic stop procedures and appropriate driver actions and interactions with law enforcement officers within its driver license handbook. It would also require the Department of Public Instruction to instruct on these topics in the driver education curriculum.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 20-88.1(d) requires the Division to prepare and revise the driver license handbook that explains the traffic laws of this State.

G.S. 115C-215 requires the Department of Public Instruction to organize and administer a standardized program of driver education to be offered at the public high schools of this State to make driver safety and training education available to all students. G.S. 115C-215(b) sets the minimum education curriculum requirements for that driver education program.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would require the Division of Motor Vehicles to consult with State Highway Patrol, the Sheriff's Association, the Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Police Benevolent Association, in creating, and revising, the driver license handbook to include a description of law enforcement procedures during traffic stops and the actions that a motorist should take during a traffic stop, including appropriate interactions with law enforcement officers.

Section 2 would require the Department of Public Instruction to include, in the driver education curriculum instruction, law enforcement procedures during traffic stops and the actions that a motorist should take during a traffic stop, including appropriate interactions with law enforcement officers.

This section directs the Department to consult with State Highway Patrol, the Sheriff's Association, the Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Police Benevolent Association in developing the curriculum.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 1 of this act would become effective January 1, 2018. The remainder of this act would become effective when it becomes law, and applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

*This bill summary was substantially contributed to by Howard Marsilio, Staff Attorney.

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