



# SENATE BILL 182: Prohibit Use of Light Bars on Motor Vehicles.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	June 28, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sen. McInnis	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Giles Perry
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Third Edition		Howard Marsilio Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 182 would prohibit the use of light bars that project a light at an intensity greater than 25 candlepower on motor vehicles being operated on the highway.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Current law provides for requirements and restrictions on an additional headlamps, spot lamps, and auxiliary lamps on motor vehicles. G.S. 20-130(c) provides restrictions on how any other device which projects a beam of light that is greater than 25 candlepower may be directed. However, it does not prohibit additional lighting equipment altogether.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 182 would prohibit the use of a light bar lighting device on a motor vehicle while the vehicle is being operated on the highway. A light bar is defined as a bar-shaped lighting device comprised of multiple lamps capable of projecting a beam of light at an intensity greater than 25 candlepower. Certain types of vehicles, such as police and emergency vehicle, would be excluded from the restriction. The bill would not apply to use of a light bar lighting device with strobing lights.

Violation of this prohibition would be an infraction with a penalty of not more than \$100.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective October 1, 2017, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

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