



HOUSE BILL 158: DOT Reporting Changes.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 5, 2019
Introduced by:	Rep. Presnell	Prepared by:	Wendy Ray
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H158-CSSU-4		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 158 would amend several statutory provisions related to Department of Transportation reporting requirements.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 158 would change Department of Transportation reporting requirements as follows:

Section 1 would repeal a quarterly report by the Division of Motor Vehicles of detailed information about administrative hearings, including the total number of each type of hearing held, amount of revenue collected, number of fee waivers granted, counties where hearings were held, and the average time required for hearings, including time required of hearing officers and administrative personnel. This requirement was enacted in the 2018 budget, with the first report required on October 1, 2018.

Section 2 would repeal the Drivers License Technology Fund and reports required to the General Assembly on money deposited in the Fund and proposed expenditures. It would also delete a reference to the Fund in another statutory provision. The Fund was established in 2001 to supplement funds available to the Division of Motor Vehicles for information technology and office automation needs but is now defunct.

Section 3 would repeal a semiannual report by the Division of Motor Vehicles on the total number of private plates and fictitious plates issued. G.S. 20-39.1 allows the Division to issue private license plates to certain agencies for use on unmarked publicly owned vehicles, including a limited number of fictitious plates with fictitious registrations for vehicles used by law enforcement agencies at the request of the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation.

Section 4 would repeal the annual maintenance and construction report by the Department, and, instead of reporting to the General Assembly 30 days prior to approving or changing a Transportation Improvement Program, would require the Department to post the proposed Transportation Improvement Program or changes to its website.

Section 5 would make annual a semiannual report by the Department on its performance metrics to evaluate utilization of in-house counsel and private counsel.

Section 6 would eliminate a report by the Department on baseline unit pricing variances, make an annual job satisfaction survey of Department personnel and an annual survey of citizen satisfaction with road conditions biennial and eliminate the requirement that survey information be reported to the General Assembly, and eliminate quarterly reports on resurfacing projects and contracts let centrally and by the highway divisions.

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House PCS 158

Page 2

Section 7 would repeal an annual report by the Department on classification and sale of residue properties that was to be required beginning March 1, 2019.

Section 8 would eliminate an annual report by the Department on Highway Fund and Highway Trust Fund construction and repair projects and maintenance projects of \$500,000 or less, authorized under G.S. 136-28.10.

Section 9 would repeal a requirement that the Department report to Appropriations on all services it provides to the public for which a fee is charged, including an analysis of the cost of the service and the fee charged for it.

Section 10 would repeal a biennial report by the Department on the condition of the State highway system and maintenance funding needs.

Section 11 would amend what is included in the Highway Maintenance Improvement Program Needs Assessment to clarify that “funds needed” are funds needed for all maintenance and bridge replacement activities.

Section 12 would eliminate an annual report by the Department on funds disbursed to public transportation systems to be used to consolidate or coordinate with other public transportation systems.

Sections 13 and 14 would repeal provisions related to construction of and reporting on the Mid-Currituck and Bonner Bridge projects.

Section 15 would eliminate a required quarterly report by the State Ports Authority on Authority building contracts over \$250,000 where exemptions from statutory requirements are utilized in order to expedite delivery, and instead require the Authority to report only when such an exemption is utilized within 60 days of signing the contract.

Section 16 would repeal an annual report by the Department on the impact of a 2016 increase to the statutory threshold from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000 for which contracts for construction, maintenance, operations, or repair are subject to formal bidding requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective when it becomes law.