

HOUSE BILL 391: Passenger Protection Act.

2019-2020 General Assembly

| Committee: | House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House | Date: | June 4, 2019 |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Introduced by: Analysis of: | | Prepared by: | Howard Marsilio Committee Counsel |

OVERVIEW: The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for House Bill 391 would:

- Amend Transportation Network Company (TNC) safety requirements.
- Create a criminal offense for impersonating a TNC driver.
- Create a Commission to Study Transportation Network Company Passenger Safety.
- Appropriate \$100,000 to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina to develop and implement an awareness campaign to educate students on what information a TNC must provide to help customers identify TNC drivers.

CURRENT LAW: Transportation Network Companies are currently required to have TNC drivers inspect their vehicles annually to meet State safety requirements, to provide certain information to customers after a ride request is accepted by a driver, and maintain records of each TNC service provided and TNC drivers for specified periods of time.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would:

- Amend Transportation Network Company safety requirements by:
 - Requiring a TNC to require a TNC driver to display the vehicle's license plate number in a location that is visible from the front of the vehicle.
 - Requiring a TNC to require a TNC driver to display consistent and distinctive signage or emblems while a TNC driver is active on the TNC digital platform or when providing a TNC service.
- Raise the TNC driver statutory minimum age requirement from 19 years old to 21 years old.
- Create a criminal offense for impersonating a TNC driver. Impersonating a TNC driver during the commission of a separate felony offense would be a Class H felony, any other violation would be a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- Create an 11 member Commission to Study Transportation Network Company Passenger Safety.
- Appropriate \$100,000 to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina to develop and implement an awareness campaign to educate students at constituent institutions on what information a TNC must provide to help customers identify TNC drivers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Sections 2 and 2.5 would become effective October 1, 2019, however, G.S. 20-285.5(e) as enacted by Section 2.(a) would become effective July 1, 2020. Section 3 would

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become effective December 1, 2019. Section 5 would become effective July 1, 2020. Except as otherwise provided, this act would become effective when it becomes law.