



# HOUSE BILL 297: DMV Deployed Armed Forces Exemptions.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 23, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Winslow, Cleveland, Goodwin, Zenger	<b>Prepared by:</b>	*Jennifer H. Bedford
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Fourth Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** House Bill 552 would provide remote conversion of a provisional license to a regular drivers license, create an additional defense to driving with an expired license, and waive the late fee for renewing an expired license, for deployed active duty servicemembers.

### CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

**G.S. 20-7(f)(6)** allows the Division of Motor Vehicles to offer remote renewal of a drivers license or remote conversion of a full provision license, and provides eligibility requirements.

**Section 1** would direct DMV to offer remote conversion for full provisional license holders if the individual is deployed out-of-state as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

**G.S. 20-35** provides the criminal penalties for driving without a license, and allows an individual to produce a drivers license in court as a defense to the offense of driving without a license.

**Section 2** would allow an individual who had been deployed when the license expired, to produce a drivers license and proof of deployment in court as a defense to the offense of driving without a license if the license was renewed within 30 days of returning from deployment.

**G.S. 20-88.03** provides a schedule of late fees (\$15.00, \$20.00, or \$25.00) for failure to pay the applicable registration fee on time.

**Section 3** would waive the late fee for expired motor vehicle registration if the person was a deployed member of the Armed Forces when the registration expired and the person obtains a renewed registration within 30 days after the deployment ends.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Section 2 would become effective December 1, 2021, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date. The remainder of the act would become effective October 1, 2021, and Section 1 would apply to any application to remotely convert a provisional license submitted on or after that date.

\*Kелlette Wade, Staff Attorney, contributed to this summary.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578