



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 297: DMV Deployed Armed Forces Exemptions.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 29, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. Winslow, Cleveland, Goodwin, Zenger	Prepared by:	Jennifer H. Bedford
Analysis of:	Fourth Edition		Staff Attorney

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.

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