



# SENATE BILL 276: Union County/Use Wheel Locks.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	March 21, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Johnson, Craven	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Billy Godwin Alejandro Ramirez Staff Attorneys
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 276 would authorize Union County to adopt and enforce ordinances permitting the use of wheel locks to enforce parking regulations on property owned or leased by the County.*

**[As introduced, this bill was identical to S201, as introduced by Sens. Johnson, Craven, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]**

**CURRENT LAW:** Counties and cities in North Carolina derive their authority from the General Assembly. The General Assembly has granted counties general ordinance authority, subject to certain limitations. Counties have authority under G.S. 153A-170 to regulate parking of motor vehicles on county-owned property. Counties are specifically authorized to remove vehicles and require payment of reasonable costs incidental to the removal and storage of the vehicle and to require payment of any fine or penalty due as a condition of regaining possession of the vehicle.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 276 would authorize Union County to do all of the following:

- Regulate parking on property owned *or leased* by the County.
- Permit the use of wheel locks or similar vehicle immobilization devices in parking enforcement.
- Require the owner of immobilized vehicles to pay any fine, costs, or penalty due as a condition of regaining possession of the vehicle.

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

**BACKGROUND:** The General Assembly has previously granted numerous cities the authority to use wheel locks for parking enforcement but no counties have been granted this authority.

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