



HOUSE BILL 146: Remote License Renewal/Active Duty Military.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 29, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Campbell, Lowery	Prepared by:	Karyl Smith
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 146 would amend the statutory eligibility requirements for remote renewal of drivers licenses to allow consecutive remote renewals for military members serving on active duty outside the State.*

CURRENT LAW: The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles currently issues drivers licenses in accordance with statutory requirements set out in G.S. 20-7. The duration of licenses issued to persons aged 18-66 is generally eight years. G.S. 20-7(f)(6) provides that the Division of Motor Vehicles may offer remote renewal of drivers licenses to persons who meet eligibility requirements. One of the eligibility requirements for renewal is that the most recent renewal must have been in person and not remote. This complies with federal regulations, which provide that states must require holders of REAL ID drivers licenses to renew licenses in person no less frequently than every sixteen years.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 146 would amend statutory eligibility requirements for remote renewal of drivers licenses to provide an exception from the requirement that the most recent prior renewal was in person for members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty outside the State. The exception would allow those licensees to renew a second consecutive time if:

- The license being renewed is not REAL ID compliant; or
- The license is REAL ID compliant but is being converted to a non-REAL ID compliant license for purposes of the renewal.

This exception would allow for consecutive renewals in a way that complies with federal regulations related to REAL ID.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective October 1, 2025, and would apply to licenses renewed on or after that date.

Wendy Ray, Staff Attorney with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.

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