



HOUSE BILL 275: Failure to Yield Penalties.

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

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 24, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Cairns, White, Pyrtle, Miller	Prepared by:	Susan Sitze
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 275 would amend failure to yield the right-of-way to a blind or partially blind pedestrian and increase the penalty for failure to yield causing serious bodily injury.*

CURRENT LAW:

G.S. 20-175.2 entitles blind or partially blind pedestrians using a guide dog or a white or white tipped with red cane to the right-of-way at crossings and intersections that are not regulated by a traffic officer or traffic-control signal, and requires all vehicles to stop until the pedestrian has fully crossed. Additionally, it requires vehicles at intersections regulated by a traffic-control signal to remain stopped if a signal changes and a blind or partially blind person is partly across the intersection until the person completes the crossing.

A violation of this statute is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

G.S. 20-160.1 provides for the offense of failure to yield when approaching or entering an intersection, turning at a stop or yield sign, entering a roadway, upon the approach of an emergency vehicle, or at highway construction or maintenance and causing serious bodily injury.

A violation of this statute is an infraction, with a mandatory fine of \$500 and a 90-day license revocation.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would amend G.S. 20-175.2 to specifically state that violation is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Section 2 would amend G.S. 20-160.1 to increase the penalty to a Class 2 misdemeanor and continue to require a \$500 fine and a 90-day license revocation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2025, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578