

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 920

Short Title: Vehicular Injury to Pregnant Woman.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Starnes; and Morris.

Referred to: Judiciary I.

April 5, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ENHANCED PUNISHMENT WHEN THE OFFENSE
OF INJURY TO PREGNANT WOMAN BY VEHICLE IS COMMITTED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Article 3 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 20-141.4A. Injury to pregnant woman by vehicle.

(a) Definitions. – The following definitions shall apply in this section:

(1) Miscarriage. – The interruption of the normal development of the fetus, other than by a live birth, and which is not an induced abortion permitted under G.S. 14-45.1, resulting in the complete expulsion or extraction from a pregnant woman of the fetus.

(2) Stillbirth. – The death of a fetus prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from a woman irrespective of the duration of pregnancy and which is not an induced abortion permitted under G.S. 14-45.1.

(b) Any person who in the unlawful operation of a motor vehicle commits a felony which causes a pregnant woman to suffer a miscarriage or stillbirth is guilty of a felony that is one class higher than the felony committed."

Section 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 1999, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.