GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

H HOUSE BILL 135

Short Title: Notification to DMV by Storage Facilities. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Moore; Brown and Wray.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

February 8, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE STORAGE FACILITIES TO IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES OF ALL VEHICLES STORED AT A STORAGE FACILITY SO A LIENHOLDER CAN BE NOTIFIED TO AVOID UNREASONABLE STORAGE FEES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-77(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) An operator of a place of business for garaging, repairing, parking or storing vehicles for the public in which a vehicle remains unclaimed for 10 days, or the landowners upon whose property a motor vehicle has been abandoned for more than 30 days, shall, within five days after the expiration of that period, two days shall immediately report the vehicle as unclaimed to the Division. Division by certified mail. Failure to make such report shall constitute a Class 3 misdemeanor. Persons who are required to make this report and who fail to do so within the time period specified may collect other charges due but may not collect storage charges for the period of time between when they were required to make this report and when they actually did send the report to the Division by certified mail.

Landowners upon whose property a motor vehicle has been abandoned for more than 30 days, without the landowner's consent, shall immediately, upon discovery of the abandoned vehicle, report the vehicle as abandoned to the Division by certified mail.

Persons who are required to make this report and who fail to do so within the time period specified may collect other charges due but may not collect storage charges for the period of time between when they were required to make this report and when they actually did send the report to the Division by certified mail.

Any vehicle which remains unclaimed after report is made to the Division may be sold by such operator or landowner in accordance with the provisions relating to the enforcement of liens and the application of proceeds of sale of Article 1 of Chapter 44A."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2007.