

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1547

Short Title: Left Turn on Red.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gulley, Tillis, Allred, Jones (Primary Sponsors); Almond, Blackwood, Blust, Braxton, Cleveland, Crawford, Daughtridge, Dockham, Dollar, Folwell, Frye, Gibson, Goodwin, Hilton, Holloway, Hurley, Johnson, Justus, Killian, Kiser, Langdon, Lewis, Martin, McGee, Moore, Neumann, Pate, Samuelson, Saunders, Spear, Stam, Starnes, Stiller, Sutton, Thomas, Walend, West, Wiley, and Wray.

Referred to: Transportation, if favorable, Judiciary I.

April 18, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO ALLOW LEFT TURNS AT TRAFFIC CONTROL LIGHTS EMITTING
3 A STEADY RED LIGHT ON ONE-WAY STREETS UNDER CERTAIN
4 CONDITIONS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-158(b)(2) reads as rewritten:

- 7 "(2) a. When a steady-beam traffic signal is emitting a red light
8 controlling traffic approaching an intersection, an approaching
9 vehicle facing the red light shall come to a stop and shall not
10 enter the intersection. After coming to a complete stop and
11 unless prohibited by an appropriate sign, that approaching
12 vehicle may make a left or right turn.
- 13 b. Any vehicle that turns right under this subdivision shall yield
14 the right-of-way to:
- 15 1. Other traffic and pedestrians using the intersection; and
 - 16 2. Pedestrians who are moving towards the intersection,
17 who are in reasonably close proximity to the intersection,
18 and who are preparing to cross in front of the traffic that
19 is required to stop at the red light.
- 20 c. Any vehicle that turns left under this subdivision shall be,
21 except where prohibited by an appropriate sign, vehicular traffic
22 that is:
- 23 1. In the leftmost lane of travel on a one-way street;
 - 24 2. Facing a red light;

1 3. At an intersection with another one-way street with
2 traffic traveling from right to left may enter the
3 intersection and make a left turn into the extreme
4 left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic.

5 The turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
6 who are moving towards the intersection, who are in reasonably
7 close proximity to the intersection, and who are preparing to
8 cross in front of the traffic that is required to stop at the red
9 light and to other traffic using the intersection.

10 e.d. Failure to yield to a pedestrian under this subdivision shall be
11 an infraction, and the court may assess a penalty of not more
12 than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and not less than one
13 hundred dollars (\$100.00).

14 d.e. The Department of Transportation shall collect data regarding
15 the number of individuals who are found responsible for
16 violations of ~~sub-subdivision~~; sub-subdivisions b. and c. of this
17 subdivision and the number of pedestrians who are involved in
18 accidents at intersections because of a driver's failure to yield
19 the right-of-way while turning left or right at a red light. The
20 data shall include information regarding the number of disabled
21 pedestrians, including individuals with visual or
22 mobility-related disabilities, who are involved in left or right
23 turn on red accidents. The Department shall report the data
24 annually to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight
25 Committee beginning January 1, 2006."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2007, and applies to
27 offenses committed on or after that date.