

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 526

Short Title: DOT/Roadside Memorials. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bradford, Potts, Henson, and White (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Transportation, if favorable, Finance

March 30, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM WHEREBY INDIVIDUALS MAY APPLY FOR THE ERECTION OF ROADSIDE MEMORIALS FOR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO HAVE DIED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article 7 of Chapter 136 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

**"§ 136-102.10. Roadside memorials.**

(a) Program; Definitions. – The Department of Transportation shall develop and implement a program whereby an individual may apply to the Department for the erection of a memorial on the roadside of a highway honoring an immediate family member of the individual who died as the result of injuries suffered from an automobile accident on the highway near that roadside. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) Immediate family member. – The mother, father, brothers, sisters, spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, children, stepparents, stepbrothers, stepsisters, and stepchildren of an individual.
- (2) Memorial. – A metal sign inscribed with the victim's name, date of birth, and date of death. The sign shall be on a pole, the height of which shall be determined by the Department.

(b) Memorial Placement. – The Department shall not erect or allow the erection of a memorial on a roadside abutting a private residential property without first receiving written consent from the owner of the private residential property.

(c) Fee. – The Department shall charge a fee of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each memorial to cover costs associated with processing the application, acquiring materials, and installing the memorial. Any fees remaining after covering the costs specified in this section shall be transferred on a quarterly basis to the Humane Society of the United States to be used to cover costs associated with rescuing animals in North Carolina."

**SECTION 2.** By September 1, 2017, the Department of Transportation shall provide an interim report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on the progress made by the Department in developing the program required by Section 1 of this act. By January 1, 2018, the Department shall provide a final report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on the specific details of the program implemented in accordance with Section 1 of this act.



1                   **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective December 1, 2017. The  
2 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.