

April 4, 2007

H 1321. NC FORESTRY SERVICE WEIGHT AND SIZE EXEMPTION. Filed 4/4/07. *TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION TO STATE AND LOCAL FIREFIGHTING AGENCIES TRANSPORTING OVERWEIGHT AND OVERSIZED VEHICLES BEING USED TO COMBAT FOREST FIRES, WILDFIRES, AND OTHER FIRES ASSOCIATED WITH NATURAL DISASTERS.*

Enacts new GS 20-118.4 to provide that any state or local fire protection agency is exempt from size and weight restrictions established under GS Chapter 20 (Motor Vehicles) and from operating under rules established by the Department of Transportation while the fire protection agency is transporting or moving heavy equipment in an emergency response to a forest fire, a wildfire, or any fire associated with a natural disaster. Specifies the parameters of an emergency response and provides that the exemption applies only during an emergency response.

Intro. by Clary, Moore.

GS 20

May 17, 2007

H 1321. WEIGHT AND SIZE EXEMPTION FOR FIRE RESPONSE (NEW). Filed 3/4/07. House committee substitute deletes all provisions of the 1st edition and replaces it with *AN ACT TO PROVIDE A WEIGHT AND SIZE EXCEPTION TO STATE AND LOCAL FIREFIGHTING AGENCIES TRANSPORTING OVERWEIGHT AND OVERSIZED VEHICLES BEING USED TO COMBAT FOREST FIRES, WILDFIRES, AND OTHER EMERGENCIES OR DISASTERS, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AN ANNUAL OR SINGLE TRIP PERMIT FOR OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES USED IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A SINGLE TRIP PERMIT FOR OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES OR VEHICLE COMBINATIONS RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY EVENT.* Enacts new GS 20-118.4 exempting overweight and oversize vehicles owned and operated by federal, state, or local authorities from Chapter 20's weight and size restrictions when the vehicles are responding to a fire either under the authority of a forest ranger, a county request for fire protection, a request for assistance under a state of emergency, or a request for assistance under a disaster declaration. Exempt vehicles would still be marked and lighted in accordance with Department of Transportation regulations and could not exceed posted bridge limits. Authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue annual or single oversize or overweight vehicle permits for commercial vehicles responding to a fire or to a request for assistance from a person authorized to direct emergency operations. Amends GS 20-119 to authorize DOT to issue a single trip overweight and oversize permit for any vehicle responding to an emergency event resulting from a disaster as determined by the Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety or the Secretary of Transportation. Vehicles issued such a permit would still be subject to marking and flagging requirements, posted road and bridge limits, and the escort vehicle requirement if operated at night.

July 11, 2007

H 1321. WEIGHT AND SIZE EXEMPTION FOR FIRE RESPONSE. Filed 4/4/07. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Modifies proposed new GS 20-118.4 to enumerate vehicle weight and size restrictions that must be met in order for an overweight or oversized vehicle to qualify for the exemptions from the size and weight restrictions. Also specifies vehicle marking, lighting, and speed requirements that must be met by vehicles that are subject to an exemption or permit.

July 28, 2007

SL 2007-290 (H 1321). WEIGHT AND SIZE EXEMPTION FOR FIRE RESPONSE. AN ACT TO PROVIDE A WEIGHT AND SIZE EXCEPTION TO STATE AND LOCAL FIREFIGHTING AGENCIES TRANSPORTING OVERWEIGHT AND OVERSIZED VEHICLES BEING USED TO COMBAT FOREST FIRES, WILDFIRES, AND OTHER EMERGENCIES OR DISASTERS, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AN ANNUAL OR SINGLE TRIP PERMIT FOR OVERSIZE AND OVERWEIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES USED IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE, AND TO

AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A SINGLE TRIP PERMIT FOR OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES OR VEHICLE COMBINATIONS RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY EVENT. Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 4/4/07, 5/17/07, and 7/11/07. Enacted July 27, 2007. Effective July 27, 2007.