

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011

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SENATE BILL 895\*  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S895-PCS85282-RV-44

Short Title: DOT Division of Motor Vehicles Leg. Requests.-AB

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 24, 2012

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND STATUTES RELATED TO MOTORCYCLE LICENSES, TO  
3 ELIMINATE A REQUIREMENT TO LIST RACE ON DRIVERS LICENSES, AND TO  
4 DELAY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TWO CHANGES TO DRIVERS LICENSES  
5 PENDING AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM UPGRADE, AS  
6 RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT  
7 COMMITTEE.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-7(a1) and (a2) read as rewritten:

10 "(a1) Motorcycles and Mopeds. – To drive a motorcycle, a person shall have one of the  
11 following:

- 12 (1) A full provisional license with a motorcycle learner's permit.
- 13 (2) A regular drivers license with a motorcycle learner's permit.
- 14 (3) A full provisional license with a motorcycle endorsement.
- 15 (4) A regular drivers ~~license,~~ license with a motorcycle endorsement.

16 Subsection (a2) of this section sets forth the requirements for a motorcycle learner's permit.  
17 To obtain a motorcycle endorsement, a person shall pay the fee set in subsection (i) of this  
18 section. In addition, to obtain an endorsement, a person age 18 or older shall demonstrate  
19 competence to drive a motorcycle by passing a ~~written or oral~~ written or oral knowledge test concerning  
20 ~~motorcycles~~ motorcycles, and by passing a road test, and a test or providing proof of successful  
21 completion of one of the following:

- 22 (1) The North Carolina Motorcycle Safety Education Program Basic Rider  
23 Course or Experienced Rider Course.
- 24 (2) Any course approved by the Commissioner consistent with the instruction  
25 provided through the Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program established  
26 under G.S. 115D-72.

27 A person less than 18 years of age shall demonstrate competence to drive a motorcycle by  
28 passing a ~~written or oral~~ written or oral knowledge test concerning motorcycles and providing proof of  
29 successful completion of one of the following:

- 30 (1) ~~The Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course or Experienced Rider~~  
31 ~~Course.~~
- 32 (2) The North Carolina Motorcycle Safety Education Program Basic Rider  
33 Course or Experienced Rider Course.



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- 1 (3) Any course approved by the Commissioner consistent with the instruction  
2 provided through the Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program established  
3 under G.S. 115D-72.

4 A person less than 18 years of age with a motorcycle endorsement may not drive a  
5 motorcycle with a passenger.

6 Neither a drivers license nor a motorcycle endorsement is required to drive a moped.

7 (a2) Motorcycle Learner's Permit. – The following persons are eligible for a motorcycle  
8 learner's permit:

- 9 (1) A person who is at least 16 years old but less than 18 years old and has a full  
10 provisional license issued by the Division.  
11 (2) A person who is at least 18 years old and has a license issued by the  
12 Division.

13 To obtain a motorcycle learner's permit, an applicant shall pass a vision test, a road sign  
14 test, and a ~~written~~ knowledge test specified by the Division. An applicant who is less than 18  
15 years old shall successfully complete ~~the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Rider Course or~~  
16 ~~the North Carolina Motorcycle Safety Education Program Basic Rider Course.~~ Course or any  
17 course approved by the Commissioner consistent with the instruction provided through the  
18 Motorcycle Safety Instruction Program established under G.S. 115D-72. A motorcycle learner's  
19 permit expires twelve months after it is issued and may be renewed for one additional  
20 six-month period. The holder of a motorcycle learner's permit may not drive a motorcycle with  
21 a passenger. The fee for a motorcycle learner's permit is the amount set in G.S. 20-7(l) for a  
22 learner's permit."

23 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-7(n) reads as rewritten:

24 "(n) Format. – A drivers license issued by the Division must be tamperproof and must  
25 contain all of the following information:

- 26 (1) An identification of this State as the issuer of the license.  
27 (2) The license holder's full name.  
28 (3) The license holder's residence address.  
29 (4) A color photograph, or a properly applied laser engraved picture on  
30 polycarbonate material, of the license holder, taken by the Division.  
31 (5) A physical description of the license holder, including sex, height, eye color,  
32 and hair color.  
33 (6) The license holder's date of birth.  
34 (7) An identifying number for the license holder assigned by the Division. The  
35 identifying number may not be the license holder's social security number.  
36 (8) Each class of motor vehicle the license holder is authorized to drive and any  
37 endorsements or restrictions that apply.  
38 (9) The license holder's signature.  
39 (10) The date the license was issued and the date the license expires.

40 The Commissioner shall ensure that applicants 21 years old or older are issued drivers  
41 licenses and special identification cards that are printed in a horizontal format. The  
42 Commissioner shall ensure that applicants under the age of 21 are issued drivers licenses and  
43 special identification cards that are printed in a vertical format, that distinguishes them from the  
44 horizontal format, for ease of identification of individuals under age 21 by members of  
45 industries that regulate controlled products that are sale restricted by age and law enforcement  
46 officers enforcing these laws.

47 ~~At the request of an applicant for a drivers license, a license issued to the applicant must~~  
48 ~~contain the applicant's race."~~

49 **SECTION 3.** Section 3 of S.L. 2011-35 reads as rewritten:

50 **"SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective ~~when the Division of Motor Vehicles has~~  
51 ~~completed the implementation of the Division's Next Generation Secure Driver License System~~

1 or July 1, 2012, whichever occurs first, and applies to drivers licenses issued on or after that  
2 ~~date.~~ on the later of the following dates and applies to drivers licenses issued on or after that  
3 date:

4 (1) January 1, 2013.

5 (2) The first day of a month that is 30 days after the Commissioner of Motor  
6 Vehicles certifies to the Revisor of Statutes that the Division of Motor  
7 Vehicles has completed the implementation of the Division's Next  
8 Generation Secure Driver License System."

9 **SECTION 4.** Section 2 of S.L. 2011-228 reads as rewritten:

10 "**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective ~~July 1, 2012, and applies to endorsements issued~~  
11 ~~for commercial drivers licenses on or after that date.~~ on the later of the following dates and  
12 applies to endorsements issued for commercial drivers licenses issued on or after that date:

13 (1) January 1, 2013.

14 (2) The first day of a month that is 30 days after the Commissioner of Motor  
15 Vehicles certifies to the Revisor of Statutes that the Division of Motor  
16 Vehicles has completed the implementation of the Division's Next  
17 Generation Secure Driver License System."

18 **SECTION 5.** When the Division of Motor Vehicles has completed the  
19 implementation of the Division's Next Generation Secure Driver License System, the  
20 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall certify to the Revisor of Statutes that the Division of  
21 Motor Vehicles has completed the implementation. When making the certification, the  
22 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall reference S.L. 2011-35, S.L. 2011-228, and the session  
23 law number of this act.

24 **SECTION 6.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective July 1, 2012. The  
25 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.