

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

**H.B. 499**  
**Apr 2, 2013**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE DRH30266-ML-115 (03/08)

Short Title: Increase Fine for Texting While Driving. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Pierce.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE FINE FOR OPERATING A MOTOR  
3 VEHICLE WHILE TEXT MESSAGING OR READING ELECTRONIC MAIL.  
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  
5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-137.4A(c) reads as rewritten:  
6 "(c) Penalty. – A violation of this section while operating a school bus, as defined in  
7 G.S. 20-137.4(a)(4), shall be a Class 2 misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine of not  
8 less than ~~one hundred dollars (\$100.00)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Any other violation of  
9 this section shall be an infraction and shall be punishable by a fine of ~~one hundred dollars~~  
10 ~~(\$100.00)~~ two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and the costs of court.  
11 No drivers license points or insurance surcharge shall be assessed as a result of a violation  
12 of this section. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall not constitute  
13 negligence per se or contributory negligence per se by the operator in any action for the  
14 recovery of damages arising out of the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a vehicle."  
15 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2013, and applies to  
16 offenses committed on or after that date.

