

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 84  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H84-PCS10141-RW-5

Short Title: DL/Deaf or Hard of Hearing Designation.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 13, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO DEVELOP A  
3 DESIGNATION FOR DRIVERS LICENSES THAT MAY BE GRANTED UPON  
4 REQUEST TO A PERSON WHO IS DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-7 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 "(q2) Deaf or Hard of Hearing Designation. – The Division shall develop, in consultation  
8 with the Department of Public Safety and the State Highway Patrol, and pursuant to this  
9 subsection, a drivers license designation that may, upon request, be granted to a person who is  
10 deaf or hard of hearing. The Division shall comply with the following requirements applicable  
11 to the designation:

12 (1) At the request of a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, the Division shall  
13 place a unique numerical identifier on the front of the person's license. The  
14 unique numerical identifier placed on the license shall not include any  
15 further descriptor. The Division shall record the designation in the electronic  
16 record associated with the person's drivers license.

17 (2) At the request of a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, the Division shall  
18 enter the drivers license numerical identifier and a descriptor into the  
19 electronic record of any motor vehicle registered in the same name of the  
20 deaf or hard of hearing person.

21 (3) Medical certification or examination is not required to make a request  
22 pursuant to this subsection.

23 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as authorizing the issuance of a  
24 drivers license to a person ineligible under G.S. 20-9."

25 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 17C-6(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

26 "(17) Establish minimum educational and training standards for employment and  
27 continuing education for criminal justice officers concerning drivers license  
28 and vehicle registration identifiers of persons who are deaf or hard of  
29 hearing, as authorized by G.S. 20-7(q2)."

30 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 17E-4(a) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

31 "(13) Establish minimum educational and training standards for employment and  
32 continuing education for officers concerning drivers license and vehicle  
33 registration identifiers of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, as  
34 authorized by G.S. 20-7(q2)."

35 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2018.



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