

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

H.B. 553  
Apr 4, 2017  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40332-MT-134 (03/23)

Short Title: Lane Departure Driver Education Curric./Study. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative White.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO STUDY THE  
3 ADVISABILITY OF ADDING LANE DEPARTURE TO THE ACTUAL DRIVING  
4 PORTION OF THE DRIVER EDUCATION CURRICULUM.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Study. – The Department of Public Instruction, in coordination with  
7 the Department of Transportation, shall study and make recommendations regarding whether to  
8 add lane departure to the actual driving portion of the driver education curriculum. The study  
9 shall include, but not be limited to, a review and analysis of all of the following:

- 10 (1) The advisability of adding an element to the driver education curriculum that  
11 would allow students participating in the actual driving portion of the course  
12 to experience lane departure and learn to avoid overcorrection. This would  
13 involve taking the wheels of the vehicle off the paved road and onto the  
14 shoulder and then safely returning the vehicle to the paved road.  
15 (2) The practicality of teaching students to respond to situations of lane  
16 departure during the actual driving portion of the driver education course,  
17 including the probability of finding sufficient, convenient locations to safely  
18 practice this maneuver.  
19 (3) Data regarding fatalities and injuries associated with lane departure and  
20 overcorrection.  
21 (4) Any liability that may attach to the instructor, the school, the local school  
22 administrative unit, or the State, by adding this element to the driver  
23 education curriculum.  
24 (5) Any other matter the Department deems relevant to the study.

25 The Department of Public Instruction shall ensure that at least one representative  
26 from the North Carolina Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, one instructor  
27 employed by a private driving school, and one public school teacher who is certified in driver  
28 education is involved in the study.

29 **SECTION 2.** Report. – The Department of Public Instruction shall report its  
30 findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Joint Legislative  
31 Education Oversight Committee no later than March 1, 2018.

32 **SECTION 3.** Effective Date. – This act is effective when it becomes law.

