

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL DRS35137-MC-70

Short Title: Mobile Drivers License. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Johnson and Moffitt (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR MOBILE DRIVERS LICENSES.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-4.01 reads as rewritten:
5 "§ 20-4.01. Definitions.

6 Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply throughout this
7 Chapter to the defined words and phrases and their cognates:

8 ...

9 (21b) Mobile Drivers License. – A supplemental digital version of a valid drivers
10 license that (i) is approved by the Commissioner, (ii) is issued by the Division
11 of Motor Vehicles, (iii) is comprised of the same data elements as are found
12 on a valid drivers license, and (iv) is capable of, and limited to, being linked
13 to, and displayed by, a mobile device owned by the person to whom the valid
14 drivers license is issued.

15 (21c) Motor Carrier. – A for-hire motor carrier or a private motor carrier.

16"

17 SECTION 2. G.S. 20-7 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

18 "(m1) Mobile Drivers License. – Upon request of an applicant for whom a valid license
19 exists or is issued, the Commissioner may issue a mobile drivers license as a supplement to the
20 valid license. A mobile drivers license shall be treated as the legal equivalent of a valid license."

21 SECTION 3. The Division of Motor Vehicles of the North Carolina Department of
22 Transportation shall study and provide a plan for implementing mobile drivers licenses as
23 authorized in this act. The study and plan shall address (i) anticipated drivers license issuance
24 and renewal process changes, (ii) anticipated changes to staffing needs for the Division for
25 implementation of mobile drivers licenses, (iii) estimated one-time and annual costs to the
26 Division or any other State agency resulting from implementation, (iv) evaluation of whether
27 implementation of mobile drivers licenses will be undertaken by the Division or contracted to a
28 third-party vendor and relevant contractual issues associated with either option, (v) changes in
29 revenue for the Division or any other State agency, (vi) security and confidentiality of drivers
30 license information, (vii) concerns of State and local law enforcement agencies within North
31 Carolina, including examining means by which to prevent unintended violations of an
32 individual's constitutional rights, (viii) an estimated time line for implementation, including steps
33 required to facilitate mobile drivers licenses, and (ix) any other issue the Division deems relevant
34 to the study. The Division shall report its findings of this study, including any legislative
35 recommendations, to the North Carolina General Assembly, the chairs of the Joint Legislative



1 Transportation Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than January 1,
2 2024.

3 **SECTION 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective July 1, 2025. The
4 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.