

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

**H.B. 886**  
**Apr 25, 2023**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE BILL DRH40445-MWa-82A

Short Title: Vehicle Headlight Brightness. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative John.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS OF THE STATE GOVERNING  
3 HEADLIGHT BRIGHTNESS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-131 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 20-131. Requirements as to headlamps and auxiliary driving lamps.**

7 ...

8 (b1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the headlamp brightness of a  
9 motor vehicle operated in this State shall not exceed the current federal standards in 49 C.F.R. §  
10 571.108 (Standard No. 108).

11 ...

12 (d1) A person found in violation of this section shall be ordered to pay a fine of twenty-five  
13 dollars (\$25.00).

14 ...."

15 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-181 reads as rewritten:

16 "**§ 20-181. Penalty for failure to dim, etc., beams of headlamps.**

17 Any person operating a motor vehicle on the highways of this State, who shall fail to shift,  
18 depress, deflect, tilt or dim the beams of the headlamps thereon whenever another vehicle is met  
19 on such highways or when following another vehicle at a distance of less than 200 feet, except  
20 when engaged in the act of overtaking and passing may, upon a determination of responsibility  
21 for the offense, be required to pay a penalty of ~~not more than ten dollars (\$10.00)~~ twenty-five  
22 dollars (\$25.00)."

23 **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated from the Highway Fund to the Department  
24 of Transportation for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in  
25 nonrecurring funds shall be used to fund a public awareness campaign regarding headlight  
26 brightness.

27 **SECTION 4.** Section 3 of this act is effective July 1, 2023. The remainder of this act  
28 becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

