

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 973

Short Title: On-Line Vehicle Registration Pilot.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Reynolds; Baker, Barbee, Bowie, Brawley, Buchanan, Capps, Clary, Cole, Culp, Dedmon, Eddins, Goodwin, Grady, Gulley, Hall, Hardy, Ives, Jeffus, Moore, Morris, Mosley, Rayfield, Sexton, Smith, Starnes, Tallent, and Thompson.

Referred to: Technology, if favorable, Transportation.

April 16, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES OF THE
2 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A PILOT PROGRAM
3 THAT ALLOWS NEW MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS TO ISSUE
4 REGISTRATION PLATES FOR NEW MOTOR VEHICLES SOLD BY THEM.
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. Program Established. – The Division of Motor Vehicles of the
8 Department of Transportation shall implement a pilot program that allows new motor
9 vehicle dealers to issue registration plates for new motor vehicles sold by them. The
10 issuance of registration plates by dealers participating in the program shall begin January
11 1, 1998, and continue until January 1, 1999, or a later date set by the Division.

12 Section 2. Selection of Dealers. – The Division shall determine the
13 requirements a new motor vehicle dealer must meet to participate in the program. The
14 Division shall select dealers to participate in the program on the basis of these
15 requirements and on the ability of the dealers selected to provide a thorough test of the
16 program. In selecting automobile dealers to participate, the Division shall consider the
17 recommendations of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association.

1 The Division shall determine the number of dealers to be included in the
2 program and shall include as many as is feasible. The Division may implement the
3 program in phases so that the number of participating dealers is increased as the Division
4 gains experience with the program and resolves any problems that arise with the program.

5 Section 3. Implementation. – The Division shall implement the program by
6 allowing the participating dealers to submit an application for a vehicle registration to the
7 Division electronically and to receive authorization electronically to issue a registration
8 plate. The electronic submission of an application for registration may be made by the
9 dealer directly to the Division or indirectly through a third-party vendor that submits the
10 application for registration directly to the Division.

11 Notwithstanding G.S. 20-63(h), the Division shall provide participating dealers
12 with registration plates to issue under the program. A dealer may not issue a personalized
13 or other special registration plate under the program.

14 The Division may enter into contracts to implement this program. If the
15 Division implements the program by using a third-party vendor, any charges by the
16 vendor for its services shall be billed to and paid by the participating dealers through per-
17 transaction charges to the dealers or another method.

18 Section 4. Progress Report. – The Division shall submit a written report to the
19 Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee by December 1, 1997, on its plan
20 to implement the pilot program required by this act. The report shall describe the
21 program and the Division's goals for the program.

22 Section 5. Final Report. – The Division shall submit a written report to the
23 Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee by December 1, 1998. The report
24 shall include an evaluation by the Division of the success or failure of the program and a
25 recommendation on whether the program should end on January 1, 1999, or should
26 continue beyond that date. The report shall include data on the number of dealers
27 participating in the program, the number of vehicle registration plates issued by month by
28 participating dealers under the program, the effect of the program on the workload of the
29 Division, and any effect the program has had on contract tag agents of the Division.

30 Section 6. This act is effective when it becomes law.