Short Title: Left Turn on Red.   (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 6, 2001

1   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW LEFT TURNS ON RED IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS, AND
3   TO MAKE TECHNICAL CHANGES.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
5   **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-158(b) reads as rewritten:
6   "(b)   Control of Vehicles at Intersections. –
7   (1)   When a stop sign has been erected or installed at an intersection, it
8   shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to fail to stop in
9   obedience thereto and yield the right-of-way to vehicles operating on
10   the designated main-traveled or through highway. When stop signs
11   have been erected at three or more entrances to an intersection, the
12   driver, after stopping in obedience thereto, may proceed with caution.
13   (2)   ~~Vehicles facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through~~
14   ~~an intersection from a steady or strobe beam stoplight shall not enter~~
15   ~~the intersection while the steady or strobe beam stoplight is emitting a~~
16   ~~red light controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection;~~
17   ~~provided that, where prohibited by an appropriate sign vehicular traffic~~
18   ~~facing a red light controlling traffic passing straight through an~~
19   ~~intersection, after coming to a complete stop at the intersection, may~~
20   ~~enter the intersection to make a right turn but such~~ When a steady or
21   strobe beam stoplight is emitting a red light controlling traffic passing
22   through an intersection, an approaching vehicle facing the red light
23   shall come to a stop and shall not enter the intersection. After coming
24   to a complete stop and unless prohibited by an appropriate sign, that
25   approaching vehicle may turn under one of the following conditions:
26   a.   That vehicle may make a right turn. The turning vehicle shall
27   yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and to other traffic using
28   the intersection.

1   b.   If that vehicle is in the leftmost lane of travel on a one-way
2   street that intersects with another one-way street with traffic
3   traveling from the turning driver's right to the turning driver's
4   left, then that vehicle may enter the intersection and make a left
5   turn into the extreme left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic.
6   The turning vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
7   and to other traffic using the intersection.

8   (2a) When ~~the~~ a stoplight is emitting a steady yellow circular light on a
9   traffic signal controlling traffic passing straight through an intersection
10   or a steady yellow arrow light on a traffic signal controlling traffic
11   turning at an intersection, vehicles facing the yellow light are warned
12   that the related green light is being terminated or a red light will be
13   immediately forthcoming. When the stoplight is emitting a steady
14   green light, vehicles may proceed with due care through the
15   intersection subject to the rights of pedestrians and other vehicles as
16   may otherwise be provided by law.

17   (3)   When a flashing red light has been erected or installed at an
18   intersection, approaching vehicles facing the red light shall stop and
19   yield the right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.
20   The right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable to making
21   a stop at a stop sign.

22   (4)   When a flashing yellow light has been erected or installed at an
23   intersection, approaching vehicles facing the yellow flashing light may
24   proceed through the intersection with caution, yielding the
25   right-of-way to vehicles in or approaching the intersection.

26   (5)   When a stop sign, stoplight, flashing light, or other traffic-control
27   device authorized by subsection (a) of this section requires a vehicle to
28   stop at an intersection, the driver shall stop at (i) an appropriately
29   marked stop line, or if none, (ii) before entering a marked crosswalk,
30   or if none, (iii) before entering the intersection at the point nearest the
31   intersecting street where the driver has a view of approaching traffic
32   on the intersecting street."

33   **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2001.