

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

S

2

SENATE BILL 809
Commerce Committee Substitute Adopted 4/20/09

Short Title: License Renewal/Active Military Duty.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 25, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OR OF A RESERVE
3 COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES TO RENEW A DRIVERS LICENSE UPON
4 RECEIPT OF DEPLOYMENT ORDERS, AND TO ALLOW A SIXTY-DAY GRACE
5 PERIOD FOR AN EXPIRED LICENSE UPON RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY
6 OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-4.01 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

9 "(33c) Reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States. – The
10 organizations listed in Title 10 United States Code, section 10101, which
11 specifically includes the Army and Air National Guard."

12 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 20-7(f) reads as rewritten:

13 "(f) Duration and Renewal of Licenses. – Drivers licenses shall be issued and renewed
14 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection:

15 ...

16 (3b) Renewal for certain members of the Armed Forces and reserve components
17 of the Armed Forces.

18 a. The Division may renew a drivers license, without limitation on the
19 period of time before the license expires, if the person applying for
20 renewal is a member of the Armed Forces or of a reserve component
21 of the Armed Forces of the United States and provides orders that
22 place the member on active duty and duty station outside this State.

23 b. A person who is a member of the Armed Forces or of a reserve
24 component of the Armed Forces of the United States whose license
25 bears an expiration date that occurred while the person was on active
26 duty outside of the United States shall be considered to have a valid
27 license until 60 days after the date of release from active duty outside
28 of the United States upon showing proof of the release date, unless
29 the license was rescinded, revoked, or otherwise invalidated under
30 some other provision of law.

31 (4) Renewal by mail. – The Division may renew by mail a drivers license issued
32 by the Division to a person who meets any of the following descriptions:

33 a. Is a member of the Armed Forces or a reserve component of the
34 Armed Forces of the United States serving on active duty in the
35 armed forces of the United States and is stationed outside this State.

36 b. Is a resident of this State and has been residing outside the State for
37 at least 30 continuous days.



1 When renewing a license by mail, the Division may waive the examination
2 that would otherwise be required for the renewal and may impose any
3 conditions it finds advisable. A license renewed by mail is a temporary
4 license that expires 60 days after the person to whom it is issued returns to
5 this State.

6"

7 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 20-7(r) reads as rewritten:

8 "(r) Waiver of Vision Test. – The following license holders shall be exempt from any
9 required eye exam when renewing a drivers license by mail under either subsection (f) of this
10 section or subsection (q) of this section if, at the time of renewal, the license holder is serving
11 in a combat zone or a qualified hazardous duty zone:

12 (1) A member of the ~~armed forces~~ Armed Forces of the United States.

13 (2) A member of ~~the national guard or of a~~ reserve component of the ~~armed~~
14 ~~forces~~ Armed Forces of the United States."

15 **SECTION 4.** The Revisor of Statutes shall change the term "armed forces" to
16 "Armed Forces" wherever that term appears in Chapter 20 of the General Statutes.

17 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to all licenses
18 expiring on or after the effective date of this act.