

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

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SENATE BILL 345  
Judiciary II Committee Substitute Adopted 4/21/15

Short Title: Limit Storage Fees on Damaged Vehicle.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 23, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF STORAGE FEES THAT CERTAIN PARTIES ARE  
3 RESPONSIBLE FOR WHEN A MOTOR VEHICLE IS IMPOUNDED AFTER A  
4 CRASH.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Article 3 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
7 a new section to read:

8 "**§ 20-166.3. Limit storage fees for vehicle damaged as a result of a crash.**

9 "(a) Limited Duration of Storage. – A motor vehicle that is towed and stored by a law  
10 enforcement agency following a collision may be held for evidence for not more than 20 days  
11 without a court order. Absent a court order, the vehicle must be released to the vehicle owner,  
12 insurer, or lien holder upon payment of the towing and storage fees. Notwithstanding any other  
13 provision of law, a motor vehicle owner, the insurer of the motor vehicle, and any other person  
14 with an ownership interest in the motor vehicle shall not be liable for storage charges in excess  
15 of the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

16 (b) Application. – This section shall not apply to a motor vehicle (i) seized as a result of  
17 a violation of law or (ii) abandoned by the owner."

18 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2015, and applies to motor  
19 vehicles impounded on or after that date.

