

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL DRS15133-NE-79

Short Title: Inexperienced Operator Continuous Coverage. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Johnson (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REQUIRING DRIVERS SUBJECT TO THE INEXPERIENCED DRIVER
3 PREMIUM SURCHARGE TO MAINTAIN OR BENEFIT FROM CONTINUOUS
4 LIABILITY COVERAGE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. G.S. 20-16 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 20-16. Authority of Division to suspend license.

8 (a) The Division shall have authority to suspend the license of any operator with or
9 without a preliminary hearing upon a showing by its records or other satisfactory evidence that
10 the licensee:

11 ...
12 (6a) Has violated G.S. 20-309(a3);
13"

14 SECTION 2. G.S. 20-309 reads as rewritten:

15 "§ 20-309. Financial responsibility prerequisite to registration; must be maintained
16 throughout registration period.

17 ...
18 (a3) No person subject to an inexperienced operator premium surcharge pursuant to
19 G.S. 58-36-65(k) shall operate a motor vehicle unless the liability insurance policy benefiting
20 that person includes any required premium surcharge. This subsection shall not apply to persons
21 who demonstrate financial responsibility in an authorized manner other than a liability insurance
22 policy.
23"

24 SECTION 3. G.S. 20-309.2 reads as rewritten:

25 "§ 20-309.2. Insurer shall notify Division of actions on insurance policies.

26 (a) Notice Required. – An insurer shall notify the Division upon any of the following
27 with regard to a motor vehicle liability policy:

28 ...
29 (4) A person subject to an inexperienced operator premium surcharge pursuant to
30 G.S. 58-36-65(k) is added or removed from the policy's coverage.

31 (a1) Division Records. – The Division shall ensure that its records accurately reflect the
32 insurance coverage status ~~of~~ of: (i) each owner of a motor vehicle registered or required to be
33 registered in this State and (ii) persons subject to an inexperienced operator premium surcharge
34 pursuant to G.S. 58-36-65 by reconciling all notices received under this section pertaining to that
35 individual or motor vehicle owner. A termination notice received under subdivision (2) of
36 subsection (a) of this section shall not be recorded as a lapse in financial responsibility or initiate



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1 action by the Division under G.S. 20-311 if an earlier notice received by the Division under this
2 section establishes that the owner of the motor vehicle has met the duty to have continuous
3 financial responsibility for the vehicle, as required under G.S. 20-309, through a motor vehicle
4 liability policy that is not the subject of the later termination notice.

5"

6 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2025.