

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE BILL 1359**

Short Title: Red Light Exception for Motorcycles. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Allran; and Goodall.

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Referred to: Judiciary II (Criminal).

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March 26, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION TO G.S. 20-158 RELATING TO  
2 MOTORCYCLES AND TRAFFIC-CONTROL SIGNALS ACTIVATED BY  
3 VEHICLE DETECTION DEVICES.  
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-158 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

7 "(e) The driver of a motorcycle approaching an intersection that is controlled by a  
8 triggered traffic-control signal using a vehicle detection device that is inoperative due to  
9 the size of the motorcycle, shall come to a full and complete stop at the intersection. If  
10 the signal fails to operate after one cycle of the traffic signal, the driver may proceed  
11 after exercising due caution and care to determine that no motor vehicle or person is  
12 approaching on the street or highway to be crossed or entered or is so far away from the  
13 intersection that it does not constitute an immediate hazard. It is not a defense to a  
14 violation of this section that the driver of a motorcycle proceeded under the belief that a  
15 traffic-control signal used a vehicle detection device or was inoperative due to the size  
16 of the motorcycle when the signal did not in fact use a vehicle detection device or the  
17 device was not in fact inoperative due to the size of the motorcycle."

18 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective September 1, 2007, and applies to  
19 violations occurring on or after that date.