

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1965 SESSION

CHAPTER 678
HOUSE BILL 227

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE VEHICLES TO BE DRIVEN UPON THE RIGHT HALF OF THE
2 ROADWAY WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS.

3
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

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6 **Section 1.** G.S. 20-38, as the same appears in the 1963 Cumulative Supplement to
7 the General Statutes, is hereby amended by adding a new subsection to be designated "(y)1."
8 and to read as follows:

9 "(y)1. Roadway. That portion of a highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for
10 vehicular travel, exclusive of the shoulder. In the event a highway includes two or more
11 separate roadways the term 'roadway' as used herein shall refer to any such roadway separately
12 but not to all such roadways collectively."

13 **Sec. 2.** G.S. 20-146, as the same appears in the 1963 Cumulative Supplement to the
14 General Statutes, is hereby amended by rewriting the same to read as follows:

15 "**§ 20-146. Drive on Right Side of Roadway; Exceptions.** (a) Upon all roadways of sufficient
16 width a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway except as follows:

- 17 (1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same
18 direction under the rules governing such movement;
- 19 (2) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the left of the
20 center of the highway; provided, any person so doing shall yield the right of
21 way to all vehicles traveling in the proper direction upon the unobstructed
22 portion of the highway within such distance as to constitute an immediate
23 hazard;
- 24 (3) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes for traffic under the rules
25 applicable thereon; or
- 26 (4) Upon a roadway designated and sign-posted for one-way traffic.

27 (b) Upon all roadways any vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at
28 the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven in the right-hand lane
29 then available for thru traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the
30 roadway, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction
31 or when preparing for a left turn.

32 (c) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving traffic and providing for
33 two-way movement of traffic, no vehicle shall be driven to the left of the center line of the
34 roadway, except when authorized by official traffic control devices designating certain lanes to
35 the left side of the center of the roadway for use by traffic not otherwise permitted to use such
36 lanes or except as permitted under subsection (a)(2) hereof.

37 **Sec. 3.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

38 **Sec. 4.** This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 1965.

39 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 25th day of May,
40 1965.