

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1967 SESSION

CHAPTER 1215
HOUSE BILL 1271

1 AN ACT TO AMEND G.S. 160-200 RELATING TO ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES.

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3 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:
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5 **Section 1.** G.S. 160-200 is hereby amended by inserting therein a new subsection to
6 be designated as subsection (44) and to read as follows:

7 "(44) The governing body of any municipality may provide by ordinance that
8 whenever a vehicle is found to be an abandoned motor vehicle as defined in
9 Section 160-200(43)(a) and, in addition, is found to be inoperable,
10 dismantled or damaged, five years old or older, and worth less than fifty
11 dollars (\$50.00), it shall be deemed to be a junk motor vehicle. A junk motor
12 vehicle may be removed from public or private property under the direction
13 of an official designated by the municipality to a storage area or garage,
14 provided no such vehicle shall be removed from private property without the
15 written request of the owner, lessee or occupant of the property on which the
16 vehicle is located, unless the same has been declared a health or safety
17 hazard by the municipality. Any junk motor vehicles so removed shall be
18 held at least 15 days. The owner of any such junk motor vehicle may reclaim
19 his vehicle during the 15-day retention period by exhibiting proof of
20 ownership to a designated official and paying all reasonable costs incident to
21 the removal and storage of the vehicle and administrative expenses. If, after
22 holding the vehicle 15 days, it remains unclaimed, said vehicle may be
23 destroyed or otherwise disposed of as provided by ordinance or resolution of
24 the municipality. Further, any municipality may, with the consent of the
25 owner of the vehicle, remove and dispose of any motor vehicle as a junk
26 motor vehicle regardless of the value, condition or age of such vehicle and
27 without waiting the aforesaid 15-day period. Any proceeds derived from the
28 disposition of junk motor vehicles shall be retained by the municipality for
29 deposit in the general fund. Notice shall be given within 15 days after final
30 disposition to the Department of Motor Vehicles, that such vehicle has been
31 deemed to be a junk motor vehicle and has been disposed of as such. The
32 notice shall contain as full and accurate a description of the vehicle as can
33 reasonably be determined. No person shall be held to answer in any civil or
34 criminal action to any owner, lien holder or other person legally entitled to
35 the possession of any abandoned, lost or stolen junk motor vehicle for
36 disposing of such vehicle as contemplated by this subsection."

37 **Sec. 2.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are
38 hereby repealed.

39 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall be effective upon its ratification.

40 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 6th day of July, 1967.