

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003

H

1

HOUSE BILL 1394

Short Title: 8-Year Drivers License/Internet DL Renewal. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Gillespie; Bell, Bonner, Crawford, Frye, Gibson, Gorman, Hilton, Pate, Stiller, K. Williams, and Wood.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

May 12, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE EIGHT-YEAR DRIVERS LICENSES AND INTERNET RENEWAL OF DRIVERS LICENSES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-7(f) reads as rewritten:

"(f) Expiration and Temporary License. ~~The first drivers license the Division issues to a person expires on the person's fourth or subsequent birthday that occurs after the license is issued and on which the individual's age is evenly divisible by five, unless this subsection sets a different expiration date. A first drivers license may be issued for a shorter duration if the Division determines that a license of shorter duration should be issued when the applicant holds a visa of limited duration issued by the United States Department of State. The first drivers license the Division issues to a person who is at least 17 years old but is less than 18 years old expires on the person's twentieth birthday. The first drivers license the Division issues to a person who is at least 62 years old expires on the person's birthday in the fifth year after the license is issued, whether or not the person's age on that birthday is evenly divisible by five. A drivers license issued to a person at least 18 years old but less than 57 years old expires eight years after the date of issuance, or on the person's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, whichever is earlier. A drivers license issued to a person at least 60 years old expires five years after the date of issuance. A person who has no more than two reportable accidents on his or her drivers license record in the previous year, no restrictions on his or her drivers license record in the previous year, who has four or fewer drivers license points, and at least 25 years old and less than 60 years old, may renew his or her drivers license electronically for one five year period. A person who holds a commercial drivers license and is required by federal regulations to be retested shall not renew electronically. The electronic renewal shall only be used as an extension of an eight-year drivers license period. The Division may waive the vision and sign tests for applicants renewing electronically. At the expiration~~

1 of any five-year electronic renewal period, the person shall renew his or her drivers  
2 license in person at a drivers license office.

3 A drivers license that was issued by the Division and is renewed by the Division  
4 expires ~~five years at the end of the period provided by this subsection~~ after the  
5 expiration date of the license that is renewed unless the Division determines that a  
6 license of shorter duration should be issued when the applicant holds a visa of limited  
7 duration from the United States Department of State. A person may apply to the  
8 Division to renew a license during the 180 day period before the license expires. The  
9 Division may not accept an application for renewal made before the 180 day period  
10 begins.

11 The Division may renew by mail a drivers license issued by the Division to a person  
12 who meets any of the following descriptions:

- 13 (1) Is serving on active duty in the armed forces of the United States and  
14 is stationed outside this State.  
15 (2) Is a resident of this State and has been residing outside the State for at  
16 least 30 continuous days.

17 When renewing a license by mail, the Division may waive the examination that  
18 would otherwise be required for the renewal and may impose any conditions it finds  
19 advisable. A license renewed by mail is a temporary license that expires 60 days after  
20 the person to whom it is issued returns to this State."

21 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2005.