



CHAPTER 18B
ARTICLE 4 - TRANSPORTATION

N.C.G.S. § 18B-401.

Manner of transportation.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2022-44, s. 3(d) — twenty-second act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 05:34 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT df7baf8e4ed720644e0798a6 - afdbf22d155b87f740226606 - 07126eae8873c151
--	---	---	--

- § 18B-401(a)

Opened Containers. - Except as authorized by a common carrier vehicle permit under G.S. 18B-1001(23), it shall be unlawful for a person to transport fortified wine or spirituous liquor in the passenger area of a motor vehicle in other than the manufacturer's unopened original container. It shall be unlawful for a person who is driving a motor vehicle on a highway or public vehicular area to consume in the passenger area of that vehicle any malt beverage or unfortified wine. Violation of this subsection shall constitute a Class 3 misdemeanor.
- § 18B-401(b)

Taxis. - It shall be unlawful for a person operating a for-hire passenger vehicle as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(27)f., to transport fortified wine or spirituous liquor unless the vehicle is transporting a paying passenger who owns the alcoholic beverage being transported. A violation of this subsection shall not be grounds for suspension of the driver's license for illegal transportation of intoxicating liquors under G.S. 20-16(a)(8).
- § 18B-401(c)

Definitions. - The definitions in Chapter 20 of the General Statutes apply in interpreting this section. If the seal on a container of alcoholic beverages has been broken, it is opened within the meaning of this section. For purposes of this section, "passenger area of a motor vehicle" means the area designed to seat the driver and passengers and any area within the reach of a seated driver or passenger, including the glove compartment. In the case of a station wagon, hatchback or similar vehicle, the area behind the last upright back seat shall not be considered part of the passenger area.

APPARATUS I
22 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1923	c. 1, s. 25	ENACTED
02	C.S.	s. 3411(y)	RECODIFIED
03	1937	c. 49, ss. 14, 16	AMENDED
04	1937	c. 411	AMENDED
05	1967	c. 222, ss. 1, 7	AMENDED
06	1967	c. 1256, s. 3	AMENDED
07	1969	c. 598, ss. 2, 3	AMENDED
08	1969	c. 1018	AMENDED
09	1971	c. 872, s. 1	AMENDED
10	1977	c. 176, s. 1	AMENDED
11	1977	c. 586	AMENDED
12	1979	c. 607, s. 1	AMENDED
13	1981	c. 412, s. 2	AMENDED
14	1981	c. 747, s. 45	AMENDED
15	1983	c. 435, s. 7	AMENDED
16	1989	c. 553, s. 3	AMENDED
17	1993	c. 508, s. 4	AMENDED
18	1993	c. 539, s. 312	AMENDED
19	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c)	AMENDED
20	2017	S.L. 2017-102, s. 5.2(b)	AMENDED
21	2021	S.L. 2021-150, s. 28.3	AMENDED
22	2022	S.L. 2022-44, s. 3(d)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
3 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 18B-1001(23)	(a)	"a common carrier vehicle permit under"
G.S. 20-4.01(27)	(b)	"for-hire passenger vehicle as defined in"
G.S. 20-16(a)(8)	(b)	"illegal transportation of intoxicating liquors under"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 18B-401 (2022).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 18B-401(a) (2022).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1923, c. 1, s. 25; C.S., s. 3411(y); 1937, c. 49, ss. 14, 16; c. 411; 1967, c. 222, ss. 1, 7; c. 1256, s. 3; 1969, c. 598, ss. 2, 3; c. 1018; 1971, c. 872, s. 1; 1977, c. 176, s. 1; c. 586; 1979, c. 607, s. 1; 1981, c. 412, s. 2; c. 747, s. 45; 1983, c. 435, s. 7; 1989, c. 553, s. 3; 1993, c. 508, s. 4; c. 539, s. 312; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2017-102, s. 5.2(b); 2021-150, s. 28.3; 2022-44, s. 3(d).)

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

