



CHAPTER 20
ARTICLE 3 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACT OF 1937

N.C.G.S. § 20-128.

Exhaust system and emissions control devices.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2015-241, s. 14.30(u) — seventh act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:11 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT ddf35053eda060319e637745 - 63bb3977b4336d8bd7fc59e6 - 6ee219221f4ed8a2
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- § 20-128(a)

No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a highway unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a muffler, or other exhaust system of the type installed at the time of manufacture, in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise, annoying smoke and smoke screens.
- § 20-128(b)

It shall be unlawful to use a "muffler cut-out" on any motor vehicle upon a highway.
- § 20-128(c)

No motor vehicle registered in this State that was manufactured after model year 1967 shall be operated in this State unless it is equipped with emissions control devices that were installed on the vehicle at the time the vehicle was manufactured and these devices are properly connected.
- § 20-128(d)

The requirements of subsection (c) of this section shall not apply if the emissions control devices have been removed for the purpose of converting the motor vehicle to operate on natural or liquefied petroleum gas or other modifications have been made in order to reduce air pollution and these modifications are approved by the Department of Environmental Quality.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
7 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.

	1937		1976						2015
	TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR				DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT				
Nº	YEAR	ACT			CHARACTER				
01	1937	c. 407, s. 91			ENACTED				
02	1971	c. 455, s. 1			AMENDED				
03	1983	c. 132			AMENDED				
04	1989	c. 727, s. 9			AMENDED				
05	1997	S.L. 1997-443, s. 11A.119(a)			AMENDED				
06	2000	S.L. 2000-134, s. 6			AMENDED				
07	2015	S.L. 2015-241, s. 14.30(u)			AMENDED				

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-128 (2015).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-128(a) (2015).

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

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1937, c. 407, s. 91; 1971, c. 455, s. 1; 1983, c. 132; 1989, c. 727, s. 9; 1997-443, s. 11A.119(a); 2000-134, s. 6; 2015-241, s. 14.30(u).)

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