



CHAPTER 20

ARTICLE 3 - MOTOR VEHICLE ACT OF 1937

N.C.G.S. § 20-176.

Penalty for misdemeanor or infraction.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2021-185, s. 13(b) — seventeenth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:24 UTC	93d5c303aa25b33c2b8d8529 - 171b2e157de3b46a9b8e3759 - f02062318d1d77af

§ 20-176(a)

INFRACTION

Violation of a provision of Part 9, 10, 10A, or 11 of this Article is an infraction unless the violation is specifically declared by law to be a misdemeanor or felony. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a1) of this section, violation of the remaining Parts of this Article is a misdemeanor unless the violation is specifically declared by law to be an infraction or a felony.

§ 20-176(a1)

INFRACTION

A person who does any of the following is responsible for an infraction:

- (1) Fails to carry the registration card in the vehicle, in violation of G.S. 20-57(c).
- (2) Repealed by Session Laws 2016-90, s. 12(b), effective December 1, 2016, and applicable to registration cards issued on or after that date.
- (3) Fails to notify the Division of an address change for a vehicle registration card within 60 days after the change occurs, in violation of G.S. 20-67.
- (4) Operates a motor vehicle in violation of G.S. 20-146.2.

§ 20-176(b)

INFRACTION

Unless a specific penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person found responsible for an infraction contained in this Article may be ordered to pay a penalty of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

§ 20-176(c)

Unless a specific penalty is otherwise provided by law, a person convicted of a misdemeanor contained in this Article is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. A punishment is specific for purposes of this subsection if it contains a quantitative limit on the term of imprisonment or the amount of fine a judge can impose.

§ 20-176(c1) Repealed by Session Laws 2014-100, s. 16C.1(c), effective October 1, 2014.

§ 20-176(c2) Repealed by Session Laws 2013-385, s. 5, effective December 1, 2013.

§ 20-176(d) For purposes of determining whether a violation of an offense contained in this Chapter constitutes negligence per se, crimes and infractions shall be treated identically.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
17 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.



TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT

Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1937	c. 407, s. 137	ENACTED
02	1951	c. 1013, s. 7	AMENDED
03	1957	c. 1255	AMENDED
04	1967	c. 674, s. 3	AMENDED
05	1969	c. 378, s. 3	AMENDED
06	1973	c. 1330, s. 34	AMENDED
07	1975	c. 644	AMENDED
08	1985	c. 764, s. 20	AMENDED
09	1985	1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 852, ss. 7, 17	AMENDED
10	1985	c. 1014, s. 202	AMENDED
11	1993	c. 539, s. 379	AMENDED
12	1994	Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c)	AMENDED
13	2013	S.L. 2013-360, s. 18B.14(h)	AMENDED
14	2013	S.L. 2013-385, s. 5	AMENDED
15	2014	S.L. 2014-100, s. 16C.1(c)	AMENDED

16	2016	S.L. 2016-90, s. 12(b)	AMENDED
17	2021	S.L. 2021-185, s. 13(b)	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. 20-57(c)	(a1)(1)	<i>"in the vehicle, in violation of"</i>
G.S. 20-67	(a1)(3)	<i>"the change occurs, in violation of"</i>
G.S. 20-146.2	(a1)(4)	<i>"a motor vehicle in violation of"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-176 (2021).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-176(a) (2021).

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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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

(1937, c. 407, s. 137; 1951, c. 1013, s. 7; 1957, c. 1255; 1967, c. 674, s. 3; 1969, c. 378, s. 3; 1973, c. 1330, s. 34; 1975, c. 644; 1985, c. 764, s. 20; 1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 852, ss. 7, 17; c. 1014, s. 202; 1993, c. 539, s. 379; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2013-360, s. 18B.14(h); 2013-385, s. 5; 2014-100, s. 16C.1(c); 2016-90, s. 12(b); 2021-185, s. 13(b).)

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