



CHAPTER 20

ARTICLE 3A - SAFETY AND EMISSIONS INSPECTION PROGRAM

N.C.G.S. § 20-183.3.

Scope of safety inspection and emissions inspection.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2025-47, s. 22(a) — fourteenth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:17 UTC	fff4ec090e47659a73268e1f - 94617c02965a1cd5f810e746 - cde6ad647d352ac2

§ 20-183.3(a)

Safety. - A safety inspection of a motor vehicle consists of an inspection of the following equipment to determine if the vehicle has the equipment required by Part 9 of Article 3 of this Chapter and if the equipment is in a safe operating condition:

- (1) Brakes, as required by G.S. 20-124.
- (2) Lights, as required by G.S. 20-129 or G.S. 20-129.1.
- (3) Horn, as required by G.S. 20-125(a).
- (4) Steering mechanism, as required by G.S. 20-123.1.
- (5) Windshield wipers, as required by G.S. 20-127(a).
- (6) Directional signals, as required by G.S. 20-125.1.
- (7) Tires, as required by G.S. 20-122.1.
- (8) Mirrors, as required by G.S. 20-126.
- (9) Exhaust system and emissions control devices, as required by G.S. 20-128. For a vehicle that is subject to an emissions inspection in addition to a safety inspection, a visual inspection of the vehicle's emissions control devices is included in the emissions inspection rather than the safety inspection.

§ 20-183.3(b)

Repealed by Laws 2000-134, s. 12, effective January 1, 2006.

§ 20-183.3(b1)

Emissions. - An emissions inspection of a motor vehicle consists of a visual inspection of the vehicle's emissions control devices to determine if the devices are present, are properly connected, and are the correct type for the vehicle and an analysis of data provided by the on-board diagnostic (OBD) equipment installed by the vehicle manufacturer to identify any deterioration or malfunction in the operation of the vehicle that violates standards for the model year of the vehicle set by the Environmental Management Commission. To pass an emissions inspection a vehicle must pass both the visual inspection and the OBD analysis. When an emissions inspection is performed on a vehicle, a safety inspection must be performed on the vehicle as well.

§ 20-183.3(c)

Reinspection After Failure. - The scope of a reinspection of a vehicle that has been repaired after failing an inspection is the same as the original inspection unless the vehicle is presented for reinspection within 60 days of failing the original inspection. If the vehicle is presented for reinspection within this time limit and the inspection the vehicle failed was a safety inspection, the reinspection is limited to an inspection of the equipment that failed the original inspection. If the vehicle is presented for reinspection within this time limit and the inspection the vehicle failed was an emissions inspection, the reinspection is limited to the portion of the inspection the vehicle failed and any other portion of the inspection that would be affected by repairs made to correct the failure.

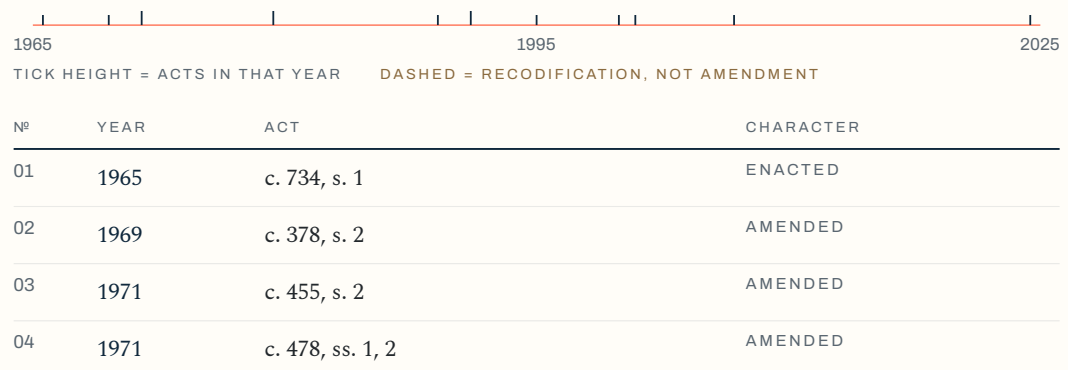
END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
14 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.



05	1979	2nd Sess., c. 1180, s. 3	AMENDED
06	1979	1981 (Reg. Sess., 1982), c. 1261, s. 1	AMENDED
07	1989	c. 391, s. 2	AMENDED
08	1991	c. 654, s. 2	AMENDED
09	1991	1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 754, s. 1	AMENDED
10	1995	c. 473, s. 2	AMENDED
11	2000	S.L. 2000-134, ss. 8, 10, 12	AMENDED
12	2001	S.L. 2001-504, s. 7	AMENDED
13	2007	S.L. 2007-364, s. 1	AMENDED
14	2025	S.L. 2025-47, s. 22(a)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
10 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. 20-124	(a)(1)	"Brakes, as required by"
G.S. 20-129	(a)(2)	"Lights, as required by"
G.S. 20-129.1	(a)(2)	"as required by G.S. 20-129 or"
G.S. 20-125(a)	(a)(3)	"Horn, as required by"
G.S. 20-123.1	(a)(4)	"Steering mechanism, as required by"
G.S. 20-127(a)	(a)(5)	"Windshield wipers, as required by"
G.S. 20-125.1	(a)(6)	"Directional signals, as required by"
G.S. 20-122.1	(a)(7)	"Tires, as required by"
G.S. 20-126	(a)(8)	"Mirrors, as required by"
G.S. 20-128	(a)(9)	"emissions control devices, as required by"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-183.3 (2025).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-183.3(a) (2025).

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

(1965, c. 734, s. 1; 1969, c. 378, s. 2; 1971, c. 455, s. 2; c. 478, ss. 1, 2; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1180, s. 3; 1981 (Reg. Sess., 1982), c. 1261, s. 1; 1989, c. 391, s. 2; 1991, c. 654, s. 2; 1993 (Reg. Sess., 1994), c. 754, s. 1; 1995, c. 473, s. 2; 2000-134, ss. 8, 10, 12; 2001-504, s. 7; 2007-364, s. 1; 2025-47, s. 22(a).)

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