

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 626
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/13/13

Short Title: Notify Law Enforcement of Towed Vehicles.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 10, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROMPTLY NOTIFY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF
3 CERTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT VEHICLES THAT HAVE BEEN TOWED.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-219.11 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 20-219.11. Notice and probable cause hearing.**

7 (a) Whenever a vehicle with a valid registration plate or registration is towed as
8 provided in G.S. 20-219.10, the authorizing person shall immediately notify the last known
9 registered owner of the vehicle of the following:

- 10 (1) A description of the ~~vehicle;~~ vehicle.
11 (2) The place where the vehicle is ~~stored;~~ stored.
12 (3) The violation with which the owner is charged, if ~~any;~~ any.
13 (4) The procedure the owner must follow to have the vehicle returned to ~~him;~~
14 and the owner.
15 (5) The procedure the owner must follow to request a probable cause hearing on
16 the towing.

17 If the vehicle has a North Carolina registration plate or registration, notice shall be given to the
18 owner within 24 hours; if the vehicle is not registered in this State, notice shall be given to the
19 owner within 72 hours. This notice shall, if feasible, be given by telephone. Whether or not the
20 owner is reached by telephone, notice shall be mailed to his last known address unless he or his
21 agent waives this notice in writing.

22 (a1) Whenever a vehicle is towed as provided in G.S. 20-219.10, the tower shall provide
23 the following information to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction through
24 calling the 10-digit telephone number designated by the local law enforcement agency having
25 jurisdiction prior to moving the vehicle:

- 26 (1) A description of the vehicle.
27 (2) The place from which the vehicle was towed.
28 (3) The place where the vehicle will be stored.
29 (4) The contact information for the person from whom the vehicle owner may
30 retrieve the vehicle.

31 The notice required under this subsection is in addition to the notice required under subsection
32 (a) of this section. If the vehicle is impeding the flow of traffic or otherwise jeopardizing the
33 public welfare so that immediate towing is necessary, the notice to the local law enforcement
34 agency having jurisdiction may be provided by a tower within 30 minutes of moving the
35 vehicle rather than prior to moving the vehicle. If a caller to a local law enforcement agency
36 having jurisdiction can provide the information required under subdivisions (1) and (2) of this



1 subsection, then a local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction shall provide to the caller
2 the information provided under subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection. The local law
3 enforcement agency having jurisdiction shall preserve the information required under this
4 subsection for a period of not less than 30 days from the date on which the tower provided the
5 information to the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

6"

7 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2013.