

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

SESSION LAW 2015-188
SENATE BILL 345

AN ACT TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF TIME A MOTOR VEHICLE CAN BE
IMPOUNDED AFTER A COLLISION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 3 of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 20-166.3. Limit storage duration for vehicle damaged as a result of a collision.

(a) Limited Duration of Storage. – A motor vehicle that is towed and stored at the direction of a law enforcement agency following a collision may be held for evidence for not more than 20 days without a court order. Absent a court order, the vehicle must be released to the vehicle owner, insurer, or lien holder upon payment of the towing and storage fees.

(b) Application. – This section shall not apply to a motor vehicle (i) seized as a result of a violation of law or (ii) abandoned by the owner."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective August 1, 2015, and applies to motor vehicles impounded on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 29th day of July, 2015.

s/ Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Paul Stam
Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives

s/ Pat McCrory
Governor

Approved 3:15 p.m. this 5th day of August, 2015

