A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS TO PASSENGER VEHICLES OPERATING ON HIGHWAYS OR PUBLIC VEHICULAR AREAS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 20-135.4 reads as rewritten:

(a) Definitions. – For the purposes of this section, the term "private passenger automobile" shall mean a four-wheeled motor vehicle designed principally for carrying passengers, for use on public roads and highways, except a multipurpose passenger vehicle which is constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features for occasional off-road operation.
(b) The manufacturer's specified height of an automobile shall not be elevated or lowered, either in front or back, more than six inches by modification, alteration, or change of the physical structure of said vehicle without prior written approval of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. On or after January 1, 1975, no self-propelled passenger vehicle that has been so altered, modified or changed shall be operated upon any highway or public vehicular area without the prior written approval of the Commissioner.
Any person operating a private passenger automobile in violation of this subsection shall be guilty of an infraction and punished in accordance with G.S. 20-176."

SECTION 2. G.S. 20-17 reads as rewritten:
"§ 20-17. Mandatory revocation of license by Division.
(a) The Division shall forthwith revoke the license of any driver upon receiving a record of the driver's conviction for any of the following offenses:

…
(17) A third or subsequent conviction of operating a private passenger automobile with prohibited modifications on any highway or public vehicular area under G.S. 20-135.4(d). A conviction for violating G.S. 20-135.4(d) is a third or subsequent conviction if at the time of the current infraction the person has two or more previous convictions under G.S. 20-135.4 that occurred in the 12 months immediately preceding the date of the current infraction.
SECTION 3. G.S. 20-19 reads as rewritten:

"§ 20-19. Period of suspension or revocation; conditions of restoration.

(c2a) When a license is suspended under G.S. 20-17(a)(17), the period of revocation shall be not less than one year.

SECTION 4. This act becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.