

**(DRAFT)**

**Summary of DOT Legislative Proposals**

**Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee**

**April 4, 2014**

**Exclude Federal Lands Access Funds from STI. (Page 1)**

This bill draft amends the Strategic Transportation Investment Act of 2013 (HB 817) to add an exclusion from the Act's Transportation Investment Strategy Formula. The bill draft excludes Federal Lands Access Program funds from the Formula. The State receives approximately \$2.5 million annually in Federal Lands Access Program Funds, for transportation-related projects on federal lands.

Effective Date: When it becomes law

**Alt. Criteria under STI for Emergency Repair. (Page 2)**

This bill draft amends the Strategic Transportation Investments Act of 2013 (HB 817) to provide that two types of funds obligated in support of emergency repair work will be subject to alternate prioritization criteria under the Act:

- Federal or State funds obligated for repairs for which federal Emergency Relief Funds are available.
- State funds obligated for repairs to damage occurring as a result of an event that is lawfully declared to be a federal or State emergency.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

**DOT Partnership with Private Developers. (Page 3)**

This bill draft reenacts a 2009 law that authorized DOT to participate, in limited circumstances, in private developer contracts for State highway system engineering, design, or construction of improvements.

The Department's participation under this act is limited to the lesser of ten percent (10%) of the contract, or \$250,000.

DOT is required to annually report, not later than March 1, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on all agreements entered into between the Department and a private developer for participation in private engineering and construction contracts under this bill draft.

The authorization provided by this bill draft would expire December 31, 2016.

Effective date: When it becomes law.

#### **DOT Minority/Women Business Program. (Page 4)**

This bill draft extends for one year, to August 31, 2015, DOT's disadvantaged minority-owned and women-owned business contract participation goals program.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **Drivers License Material Technical Standard. (Page 5)**

This bill draft changes the material technical standards for State drivers' licenses to eliminate a requirement for use of "polycarbonate material", instead requiring use of material that is "measured by industry standards of security and durability, and is resistant to tampering and reproduction".

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **Turnpike Authority Annual Audit Date Change. (Page 6)**

This bill draft changes the due date for the North Carolina Turnpike Authority Annual Audit Report. Current law requires the report to be submitted promptly following the close of the fiscal year. The bill draft changes the due date to October.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **Agritourism Sign Location/DOT Standards. (Page 7)**

This bill draft amends current law governing agritourism signs to require the Department of Agriculture to work with DOT on the placement of agritourism signs; removes the one-mile limit on placement; and instead requires agritourism sign placement to follow DOT tourist and logo sign rules, which allow placement up to five miles from agritourism sites.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **Repeal Report/Right Turn on Red. (Page 8)**

This bill draft repeals a requirement in current law that DOT annually report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee on right turn on red light crashes, including crashes involving pedestrians and person with disabilities.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **MAP-21 Update/Rail Safety. (Page 9)**

This bill draft amends existing State law authorizing DOT to oversee the safety of fixed guideway transit systems, to update a federal statutory reference.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **Single License Plate Renewal Sticker. (Page 10)**

This bill draft directs DMV to issue a single registration renewal sticker for vehicle registration plates.

Effective Date: January 1, 2015.

#### **DMV Conversion of Paper Titles. (Page 11)**

This bill draft authorizes the Division of Motor Vehicles to convert paper titles to electronic liens, and to charge a fee not to exceed \$3 for each conversion.

Effective Date: When it becomes law.

#### **DMV Interlock Violation Hearing Site. (Pages 12-13)**

This bill draft amends the statute governing DMV hearings on a driver's license as a result of an ignition interlock violation. Under current law, if requested, those hearings must be held in the county where the ignition interlock charge was brought. The bill draft changes current law in the case of a violation that is evidenced by an ignition interlock system report. In that case, the hearing would have to be conducted in the county where the person resides.

Effective Date: October 1, 2014, and applies to hearings requested on or after that date.

#### **DMV Inspection Station Case Continuances. (Pages 14-15)**

This bill draft amends the Safety and Emissions Inspection Program laws to provide that DMV may grant a continuance for an inspection station related license violation hearing. Under current law, if a violation hearing is requested, DMV must hold the hearing within 30 days.

Effective Date: October 1, 2014.

#### **Service of Hearing Order/MV Dealer Licensee. (Page 16)**

This bill draft amends the Motor Vehicle Dealers and Manufacturers Licensing Law to provide that notice of license suspension, revocation, denial, or nonrenewal may be made in accordance with any of the notice methods authorized by Rule 4 of Rules of Civil Procedure, (which include personal delivery; and registered or certified mail, return receipt requested). Current law requires certified mail with return receipt requested.

Effective Date: October 1, 2014, applicable to notices given on or after that date.

**DMV DL Medical Review Program Changes. (Pages 17-20)**

This bill draft makes several changes to DMV's Drivers License Medical Review Program:

- Clarifies that DMV's Medical Review Board may, upon request, review cancellations and restrictions to drivers licenses, in addition to denials;
- Reduces the Medical Review Board from 5 to 3 persons, and provides that the DMV Commissioner shall select the two medical professional on the Board (current law- four selected by the Chairman of the Commission for Public Health).
- Clarifies that a request for a hearing before the Medical Review Board does not suspend any denial, cancellation, or restriction to a driver's license.
- Provides that an adverse decision of the Medical Review Board shall be delivered by certified mail (current law-registered mail).

Effective Date: October 1, 2014.