



November 2, 2009

North Carolina bills address road funding, older drivers

When the North Carolina General Assembly closed for business this year, lawmakers left many notable bills hanging out until 2010. Among the bills of interest to truckers that can be brought back for consideration in the spring are efforts to get roadwork done and tighten driving rules for older drivers.

One bill would require the North Carolina Department of Transportation to study the feasibility of tolling all interstates entering into the state. Sponsored by Rep. Ric Haire, R-Charlotte, HB1245 also requires the NCDOT to report to the Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division.

The House has already approved it.

Another bill is intended to help secure revenues for roads and bridges in the state. Sponsored by Rep. Ric Killian, R-Charlotte, HB1147 would transfer funding of the Highway Patrol from the Highway Fund to the General Fund.

One other bill would tighten driving rules for elderly drivers. Sponsored by Rep. Ric Killian, R-Charlotte, HB418 would allow Department of Motor Vehicles workers to conduct road tests at their discretion for people 85 and older. Renewal periods would remain the same for all drivers, except those ages 54 to 65. Affected drivers would have their renewal periods increase from every five years to every eight years.

The bills were left in committees when the regular session ended. They can be considered once the 2010 session convenes in May.

To view other legislative activities of interest for North Carolina in 2009, [click here](#).

– *By Keith Goble, state legislative editor*

Editor's Note: Please share your thoughts with us about the legislation included in this story. Comments may be sent to statelegislatedesk@ooida.com.



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