

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
1997 SESSION

S.L. 1997-36  
HOUSE BILL 266

AN ACT TO ALLOW PRIVATE PASSENGER AND PRIVATE PROPERTY-HAULING VEHICLES WEIGHING UP TO SIX THOUSAND POUNDS TO BE ISSUED "FIRST IN FLIGHT" PLATES AND TO CLARIFY THAT THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ISSUE PERSONALIZED COMMERCIAL LICENSE PLATES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 20-63(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Every license plate shall have displayed upon it the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued, the name of the State of North Carolina, which may be abbreviated, the year number for which it is issued or the date of expiration, and, if the plate is issued for a commercial vehicle, as defined in G.S. 20-4.2(1), the word 'commercial,' designating 'commercial vehicle.' The Division may not issue a plate bearing the word 'commercial' for a trailer, or a vehicle licensed for less than 5,000, 6,000 pounds or less. ~~a property hauling vehicle, or a commercial vehicle bearing a personalized plate.~~

A registration plate issued by the Division for a private passenger vehicle or for a private hauler vehicle licensed for 4,000-6,000 pounds or less shall be a 'First in Flight' plate. A 'First in Flight' plate shall have the words 'First in Flight' printed at the top of the plate above all other letters and numerals. The background of the plate shall depict the Wright Brothers biplane flying over Kitty Hawk Beach, with the plane flying slightly upward and to the right."

Section 2. This act becomes effective January 1, 1998, and applies to new or renewal vehicle registrations occurring on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 14th day of April, 1997.

s/ Dennis A. Wicker  
President of the Senate

s/ Harold J. Brubaker  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ James B. Hunt, Jr.  
Governor

Approved 2:02 p.m. this 23rd day of April, 1997