



# HOUSE BILL 82: Railroad Crossings/On-Track Equipment.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 11, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Pierce, Shepard	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Susan Sitze*
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 82 would clarify that statutory rail crossing requirements and restrictions that apply when a railroad train is approaching also apply when on-track equipment is approaching.*

**CURRENT LAW:** There are currently several statutes related to safety of vehicles at railroad crossings. G.S. 20-142.1 requires vehicles to stop when there is a signal or plainly visible approaching train. G.S. 20-142.3 requires school buses and certain other vehicles to stop at all grade crossings before proceeding. G.S. 20-142.4 provides additional safety requirements for moving heavy equipment over grade crossings. G.S. 20-142.5 prohibits entering a grade crossing unless there is sufficient room on the other side to accommodate the vehicle without obstructing the passage of other vehicles, pedestrians, and trains. Violation of any of these provisions is an infraction.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 82 would define "on-track equipment" as any railcar, rolling stock, equipment, vehicle, or other device that is operated on stationary rails.

The bill would also amend the statutes related to safety of vehicles at railroad crossings to make clear that the requirements that apply when a train is approaching or visible also apply when on-track equipment is approaching or visible.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would be effective December 1, 2019, and would apply to offenses occurring on or after that date.

*\*Wendy Ray, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.*

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578