

# STAKEHOLDER RECOMMENDATION: STOP REVOKING DRIVING PRIVILEGES FOR MISSED COURT DATES

Under state law, the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles revokes driver's licenses for failing to appear or failing to pay a fine, penalty, or court cost involving a motor vehicle offense.

## N.C.G.S. 20-24.1(a)

NC DMV must revoke a person's driver's license upon receiving notice from a court that...

- 1 a person charged with a motor vehicle offense failed to appear when the case was called.
- 2 a person charged with a motor vehicle offense failed to pay a fine, penalty, or court cost.

In September 2018 more than 1 million individuals had driver's license suspensions in North Carolina attributable to failure to appear or failure to pay in motor vehicle cases. That represents roughly 15% of all adult drivers in North Carolina.

**Stakeholders who participated in the North Carolina Court Appearance Project recommended ending the practice of revoking driver's licenses due to failure to appear and failure to pay. They also recommended this statutory change be retroactive, with notice to drivers and without requiring the payment of restoration fees. Read more about their recommendation [here](#).**

### References

William E. Crozier & Brandon L. Garrett, Driven to Failure: An Empirical Analysis of Driver's License Suspension in North Carolina, 69 Duke L.J. 1585-1641 (2020). Retrieved from [here](#).