GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2015

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HOUSE DRH10027-LR-18 (12/11)

Short Title: Labor/Up Amusement Device Penalties. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Davis and Howard (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR THE ILLEGAL OPERATION OF AMUSEMENT DEVICES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 95-111.13 reads as rewritten:

"§ 95-111.13. Violations; civil penalties; appeal; criminal penalties.

- (a) Any person who violates G.S. 95-111.7(a) or (b) (Operation without certificate; operation not in accordance with Article or rules and regulations) shall be or G.S. 95-111.8 (Location notice) is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for each rule, regulation, or section of this Article violated and for each day each device is so operated or used.
- (b) Any person who violates G.S. 95-111.7(c) (Operation after refusal to issue or after revocation of certificate) or G.S. 95-111.10(c) (Reports required) or G.S. 95-111.12 (Liability insurance) shall be is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day each device is so operated or used.
- (c) Any person who violates G.S. 95-111.8 (Location notice) shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each day any device is operated or used without the location notice having been provided.
- (d) Any person who violates the provisions of G.S. 95-111.10(d) (Reports required) or knowingly permits the operation of an amusement device in violation of G.S. 95-111.11(a) (Operator requirements) shall be is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day each device is so operated or used.
- (e) Any person who violates G.S. 95-111.9 (Operation of unsafe device) or G.S. 95-111.11(b) (Operation of an amusement device while impaired) shall be is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day each device is so operated or used.
- (f) In determining the amount of any penalty ordered under authority of this section, the Commissioner shall give due consideration to the appropriateness of the penalty with respect to the <u>size-annual gross volume</u> of the business of the person-being charged, the gravity of the violation, the good faith of the <u>person-person</u>, and the record of previous violations.
- (g) The determination of the amount of the penalty by the Commissioner shall be is final, unless within 15 days after receipt of notice thereof by certified mail with return receipt, by signature confirmation as provided by the U.S. Postal Service, by a designated delivery service authorized pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 7502(f)(2) with delivery receipt, or via hand delivery, the person charged with the violation takes exception to the determination, in which event final determination of the penalty shall be made in an administrative proceeding and in a



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judicial proceeding pursuant to Chapter 150B of the General Statutes, the Administrative Procedure Act.

- (h) The Commissioner may file in the office of the clerk of the superior court of the county wherein the person, against whom a civil penalty has been ordered, resides, or if a corporation is involved, in the county wherein the corporation maintains its principal place of business, or in the county wherein the violation occurred, a certified copy of a final order of the Commissioner unappealed from, or of a final order of the Commissioner affirmed upon appeal. Whereupon, the clerk of said court shall enter judgment in accordance therewith and notify the parties. Such judgment shall have the same effect, and all proceedings in relation thereto shall thereafter be the same, as though said judgment had been rendered in a suit duly heard and determined by the superior court of the General Court of Justice.
- (i) Any person who willfully violates any provision of this Article, and the violation causes the death of any person, shall be Article is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor, which may include a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); except that if the conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such the person, the person shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, which may include a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000). This subsection shall not prevent any prosecuting officer of the State of North Carolina from proceeding against such person on a prosecution charging any degree of willful or culpable homicide.
- (j) If a person willfully violates any provision of this Article, and that violation causes the serious injury or death of any person, then the person is guilty of a Class E felony punishable by a fine of not more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).
- (k) Nothing in this section prevents any prosecuting officer of the State of North Carolina from proceeding against a person who violates this Article on a prosecution charging any degree of willful or culpable homicide."
- **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2015, and applies to violations occurring on or after that date.