

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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**HOUSE BILL 123
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/19/01**

Short Title: Increase 2nd Degree Arson Penalty.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 15, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION TO
3 STUDY THE STATE'S CRIMINAL LAWS WITH REGARD TO ARSON AND
4 OTHER BURNINGS; AND TO STUDY THE NEED FOR CONFORMING
5 CHANGES TO THE STATUTORY MEDICAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
6 REGARDING BURN INJURIES THAT APPEAR TO RESULT FROM A
7 CRIMINAL ACT.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** The Legislative Research Commission may study the question
10 of whether the punishment for second-degree arson should be punishable as a Class E
11 felony rather than a Class G felony. The Commission may include as a part of its study
12 consolidation or reclassification of any or all of the arson and burning offenses in
13 Article 15 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes.

14 **SECTION 2.** The Commission may also study the question of whether G.S.
15 90-21.20 should be amended to require reporting by physicians and hospitals of every
16 case in which a patient has burns over approximately ten percent (10%) or more of the
17 patient's body if it appears to the physician or surgeon treating the case that a criminal
18 act was involved. The Commission may include as a part of its study other issues
19 regarding reporting by physicians and hospitals of wounds, injuries, and illnesses.

20 **SECTION 3.** The Commission shall make a report of its findings and
21 recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to the 2002 Regular Session
22 of the 2001 General Assembly.

23 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.