

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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SENATE BILL 661

Short Title: Private Labs Must Comply with CODIS. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Newton (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 30, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT WHEN LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OBTAIN DNA ANALYSES FROM ENTITIES OTHER THAN THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY THAT THOSE ENTITIES MEET THE STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO VENDOR LABORATORIES AS SET FORTH IN FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION STANDARDS RELATED TO THE COMBINED DNA INDEX SYSTEM (CODIS); TO REQUIRE THE STATE CRIME LABORATORY TO MAKE AVAILABLE A LIST OF ENTITIES THAT SATISFY THAT REQUIREMENT; AND TO PROHIBIT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM USING CERTAIN DNA DATABASES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 13 of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 15A-270.2. Obtaining DNA analyses from entities other than the State Crime Laboratory; use of local DNA databases prohibited.

(a) Private Laboratories Shall Comply with CODIS Requirements. – A local law enforcement agency shall not obtain DNA analysis from an entity other than the Crime Laboratory unless that entity meets the standards applicable to vendor laboratories as set forth in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing and Databasing Laboratories. The Crime Laboratory shall maintain a list of laboratories that meet those standards and shall make the list available on its Web site.

(b) Private DNA Databases Prohibited. – A local law enforcement agency shall not access or create any DNA Database other than those that participate in the CODIS system."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2015.

