

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 698  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/3/23

Short Title: Codify/Replace Comm. Law Obstruct. of Justice. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 19, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REPLACE THE CRIME OF COMMON LAW OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE  
3 WITH A CODIFIED VERSION OF THAT SAME CRIME.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 30 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
6 a new section to read:

7 "**§ 14-222.1. Obstruction of justice.**

8 (a) Offense. – It is unlawful for any person to do any act which prevents, obstructs,  
9 impedes, or hinders public or legal justice.

10 (b) Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section in relation to a misdemeanor  
11 offense is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section  
12 in relation to a felony offense is guilty of a Class I felony.

13 (c) This crime shall replace the crime of common law obstruction of justice in this State."

14 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to offenses  
15 committed on or after that date.

