

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

**SESSION LAW 2019-41
HOUSE BILL 617**

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE PROHIBITION ON REFERRING A JUVENILE TO A TEEN COURT PROGRAM IF THE JUVENILE HAS BEEN REFERRED TO A TEEN COURT PROGRAM PREVIOUSLY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 7B-1706(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) If a teen court program has been established in the district, the juvenile court counselor, upon a finding of legal sufficiency, may refer to a teen court program, any case in which a juvenile has allegedly committed an offense that would be an infraction or misdemeanor if committed by an adult. However, the juvenile court counselor shall not refer a case to a teen court program ~~(i) if the juvenile has been referred to a teen court program previously, or (ii) if~~ the juvenile is alleged to have committed any of the following offenses:

- (1) Driving while impaired under G.S. 20-138.1, 20-138.2, 20-138.3, 20-138.5, or 20-138.7, or any other motor vehicle violation;
- (2) A Class A1 misdemeanor;
- (3) An assault in which a weapon is used; or
- (4) A controlled substance offense under Article 5 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes, other than simple possession of a Schedule VI drug or alcohol."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 17th day of June, 2019.

s/ Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved 2:35 p.m. this 21st day of June, 2019

