

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE BILL 244

Short Title: Arson Offenses-Sent. Commission.-AB (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Haire; and Glazier.

Referred to: Judiciary IV.

March 6, 2003

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR SECOND DEGREE ARSON AND  
3 TO REQUIRE THAT PHYSICIANS AND HOSPITALS REPORT CERTAIN  
4 TYPES OF BURN CASES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA  
5 SENTENCING AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-58 reads as rewritten:

8 "**§ 14-58. Punishment for arson.**

9 There shall be two degrees of arson as defined at the common law. If the dwelling  
10 burned was occupied at the time of the burning, the offense is arson in the first degree  
11 and is punishable as a Class D felony. If the dwelling burned was unoccupied at the  
12 time of the burning, the offense is arson in the second degree and is punishable as a  
13 Class ~~G~~E felony."

14 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 90-21.20(b) reads as rewritten:

15 "(b) Cases of wounds, injuries or illnesses which shall be reported by physicians,  
16 and hospitals include every case of a bullet wound, gunshot wound, powder burn or any  
17 other injury arising from or caused by, or appearing to arise from or be caused by, the  
18 discharge of a gun or firearm, every case of illness apparently caused by poisoning,  
19 every case of a wound or injury caused, or apparently caused, by a knife or sharp or  
20 pointed instrument if it appears to the physician or surgeon treating the case that a  
21 criminal act was involved, ~~and~~ every case of a wound, injury or illness in which there is  
22 grave bodily harm or grave illness if it appears to the physician or surgeon treating the  
23 case that the wound, injury or illness resulted from a criminal act of ~~violence~~violence,  
24 and every case of a burn which covers approximately ten percent (10%) or more of the  
25 patient's body if it appears to the physician or surgeon treating the case that a criminal  
26 act was involved."

27 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2003, and applies to  
28 offenses committed on or after that date.