

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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SENATE DRS55282-RK-50 (5/24)

Short Title: Increase Penalty for Threats to Children. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Berger.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR COMMUNICATING A THREAT TO
A CHILD.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 14-277.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-277.1. **Communicating threats.**

(a) A person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor if without lawful authority:

- (1) He willfully threatens to physically injure the person or that person's child, sibling, spouse, or dependent or willfully threatens to damage the property of another;
- (2) The threat is communicated to the other person, orally, in writing, or by any other means;
- (3) The threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out; and
- (4) The person threatened believes that the threat will be carried out.

(b) A violation of ~~this section~~ subsection (a) of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

(c) A person is guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor if:

- (1) The person violates subsection (a) of this section;
- (2) The victim is a child under the age of 13 years; and
- (3) The person committing the offense is age 18 years or older."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2004, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.