May 25, 2006

**S 2000. CERT. OF MERIT/CIVIL ACT./ENGINEER/ARCHITECT.** Filed 5/25/06. *REQUIRING A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT ON CIVIL ACTIONS FILED AGAINST A PERSON OR FIRM PROVIDING ARCHITECTURE OR ENGINEERING SERVICES IN THIS STATE*. Enacts new Article 12A of GS Chapter 1 as title indicates. Requires plaintiff in a civil action or an arbitration proceeding for damages arising out of the provision of professional services performed by a licensed professional engineer, a licensed architect, or another design professional as defined in the act to file an affidavit by a third-party professional engineer or architect, as appropriate, who is licensed in NC and is actively engaged in the practice of engineering or architecture. The affidavit must state at

least one negligent act, error, or omission claimed to exist and the factual basis for the claim. Amends GS 89C-14(c) and GS 89C-17 to increase to $95 the cap on the fee for renewal of a license for corporations that engage in engineering or land surveying. Makes additional conforming changes.

**Intro. by Hartsell.** GS 1, 1A, 83A, 89C