May 25, 2006

S 2047. SEX OFFENDER WATCH INITIATIVE/DOJ FUNDS. Filed 5/25/06. *TO APPROPRIATE AND INCREASE FUNDING FOR JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, TO FULLY FUND THE NORTH CAROLINA SEX OFFENDER WATCH INITIATIVE, TO FUND THE STATEWIDE AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (SAFIS) REPLACEMENT, TO FUND LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND ADULTS FROM SEXUAL PREDATORS, TO SPEED THE PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS OF DNA, DRUG EVIDENCE, AND COMPUTER FORENSIC EVIDENCE, TO PROVIDE NEW FUNDING TO IMPROVE INTERDICTION EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE INCREASE IN METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING, AND MORE EFFECTIVELY COMBAT FINANCIAL CRIMES, IDENTITY THEFT AND PUBLIC CORRUPTION, TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO PAY SBI PERSONNEL A MORE COMPETITIVE WAGE SO AS TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN EXPERIENCED LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS, TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO EXPAND TRAINING FOR ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND TO FUND FIVE NEW ATTORNEYS TO ADDRESS THE GROWING WORKLOADS IN FOUR CRITICAL AREAS*. Appropriates from the General Fund to the Department of Justice for 2006-07: $303,564 to fully fund the NC Sex Offender Watch Initiative; $1,963,768 to fund the replacement of the Statewide Automated Fingerprint Identification System; $1,555,216 to deploy 20 new State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) investigators for specified purposes; $385,325 to fund pay equity increases in the SBI; $436,480 to fund increased training requirements for state and local law enforcement officers, detention officers, and 911 operators; $232,979 to hire five staff attorneys for the criminal appellate, law enforcement liaison, revenue, and waste management section of the Department; and $772,500 for a backup computer center. Effective July 1, 2006.

Intro. by Snow. APPROP