GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

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S SENATE DRS55370-LH-116 (2/21)

Short Title: Sex Offender Register/Crime Against Nature. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Preston.

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1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON CONVICTED OF THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF CRIME AGAINST NATURE COMMITTED AGAINST A VICTIM WHO IS A MINOR MUST REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE COURT SHALL NOT APPROVE ANY PLEA BARGAIN THAT ALLOWS A DEFENDANT WHO COMMITTED AN OFFENSE AGAINST A MINOR VICTIM THAT REQUIRES REGISTRATION AS A SEX OFFENDER TO PLEAD TO A CRIME THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE REGISTRATION OR THAT REQUIRES A SHORTER PERIOD OF REGISTRATION IF THE VICTIM OF THE CRIME IS A MINOR.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 14-208.6(5) reads as rewritten:

"Sexually violent offense" means a violation of G.S. 14-27.2 (first "(5)degree rape), G.S. 14-27.3 (second degree rape), G.S. 14-27.4 (first degree sexual offense), G.S. 14-27.5 (second degree sexual offense), G.S. 14-27.5A (sexual battery), G.S. 14-27.6 (attempted rape or sexual offense), G.S. 14-27.7 (intercourse and sexual offense with certain victims), G.S. 14-27.7A(a) (statutory rape or sexual offense of person who is 13-, 14-, or 15-years-old where the defendant is at least six years older), G.S. 14-43.13 (subjecting or maintaining a person for sexual servitude), G.S. 14-177 (crime against nature) if the victim of the crime is a minor, G.S. 14-178 (incest between near relatives), G.S. 14-190.6 (employing or permitting minor to assist in offenses against public morality and decency), G.S. 14-190.9(a1)(felonious indecent exposure), G.S. 14-190.16 (first degree sexual exploitation of a minor), G.S. 14-190.17 (second degree sexual exploitation of a minor), G.S. 14-190.17A (third degree sexual exploitation of a minor),

G.S. 14-190.18 (promoting prostitution of a minor), G.S. 14-190.19 (participating in the prostitution of a minor), G.S. 14-202.1 (taking indecent liberties with children), or G.S. 14-202.3 (Solicitation of child by computer to commit an unlawful sex act). The term also includes the following: a solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses; aiding and abetting any of these offenses."

SECTION 2. Article 58 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 15A-1023.1. No approval of plea arrangements that allow defendant charged with offense that requires registration to plead to offense that does not require registration or that requires shorter period of registration when crime victim is a minor.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the prosecutor shall not offer and the judge shall not accept any plea arrangement that allows a defendant, who is charged with an offense that requires the defendant to register as an offender under Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes and that was committed against a minor, to enter a plea to another offense that does not require registration or that requires a shorter period of registration in lieu of the offense that requires registration or the longer period of registration.

(b) If the parties have agreed to a plea arrangement in which the prosecutor has agreed to allow a defendant charged with committing an offense against a minor to plead to an offense other than the one charged, they must disclose the substance of their agreement to the judge at the time the defendant is called upon to plead.

(c) Before accepting a plea pursuant to a plea arrangement described in subsection (b) of this section, the judge must advise the parties whether he or she approves the arrangement and will dispose of the case accordingly. If the judge rejects the arrangement, the judge must so inform the parties, refuse to accept the defendant's plea of guilty or no contest, and advise the defendant personally that neither the State nor the defendant is bound by the rejected arrangement. The judge must advise the parties of the reasons he or she rejected the arrangement and afford them an opportunity to modify the arrangement accordingly. Upon rejection of the plea arrangement by the judge, the defendant is entitled to a continuance until the next session of court. A decision by the judge disapproving a plea arrangement is not subject to appeal."

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective December 1, 2007, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

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