

April 15, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS (=H 1225). *TO REORGANIZE THE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BY EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF JUDICIAL DIVISIONS FROM FOUR TO EIGHT, TO ESTABLISH PILOT PROGRAMS FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE FUTURE OF JUSTICE AND THE COURTS IN NORTH CAROLINA* . Amends GS 7A-41 to divide as title indicates. New divisions are: Division 1: Districts 1,2, 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B, 7C; Division 2: 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5, 8A, 8B; Division 3: 9, 9A, 10, 14, 15A, 15B; Division 4: 11A, 11B, 12, 13, 16A, 16B; Division 5: 17A, 17B, 18, 19B, 21, 23; Division 6: 19A, 19C, 20A, 20B, 22; Division 7: 25A, 25B, 26, 27A, 27B; Division 8: 24, 28, 29, 30A, 30B. Requests Chief Justice to choose up to two of these divisions, or portions of divisions, to establish pilot programs. Areas chosen may not split district court districts. Pilots to have a designated judge to serve as coordinating judge, and a trial court administrator appointed for that purpose. Pilot to have advisory judicial council. Pilot coordinating judge, with consent of chief district and senior resident superior court judges in pilot area, to establish court schedules, assign judges, develop and implement criminal and civil calendaring system, determine when cases may be heard in other counties within judicial district; establish local rules and transfer funds within budget rules. Directs Chief Justice and Administrative Office of the Courts to report of pilot effectiveness to legislature by March 1, 2001. Appropriates \$200,00 for 1999-2000 from General Fund to Judicial Dep't for personnel and equipment to implement act Effective July 1, 1999.

Intro. by Clodfelter and Odom.

Ref. to Judiciary I

GS 7A, APPROP

June 23, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Moves superior court district 3A from new second division to new first division for purposes of rotation of judges. Specifies that coordinating judge for pilot circuit created by act may be assisted by staff assigned by chief justice (originally by trial court administrator), and requires coordinating judge to consult with clerks of court and district attorneys in areas covered by circuit.

June 30, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. Senate amendment makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Amendment changes date for report from Chief Justice and Administrative Office of the Courts from March 1, 2001 to March 1, 2002, reduces appropriation from General Fund to Judicial Department from \$200,000 to \$150,000, and changes effective date of act from July 1, 1999 to January 1, 2000.

July 8, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Deletes appropriation of \$150,000 from the General Fund to the Judicial Dep't for the 1999-2000 fiscal year and instead requires that \$150,000 provided by SL 1997-237 be used to implement the provisions of this act.

July 13, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 4th edition. Provides the Chief Justice may choose (was, is requested to choose) up to two of the eight divisions in which to establish pilot programs for organization and management of the trial courts.

July 14, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. House amendment makes the following changes to 5th edition. Provides that Chief Justice must have the consent of a majority of senior resident superior court judges and chief district judges of a division selected as a pilot program and that coordinating judge in pilot district must have consent of (rather than consult with) senior resident superior court judges, district attorneys, chief district judges and clerks of court to plans for carrying out specific duties as coordinating judge. Deletes provision that authorizes coordinating judge to determine circumstances under which a case may be tried outside the county in which it arose.

July 15, 1999

S 1025. REORG. SUP. CT. DIVISIONS/PILOT FUNDS. Intro. 4/15/99. House amendment makes technical change to 5th edition.