

June 6, 2002

H 1553. WAIVE JURY TRIAL/CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (=S 1256). *TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO ALLOW A CRIMINAL DEFENDANT IN A NONCAPITAL CASE TO WAIVE A JURY TRIAL, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA COURTS COMMISSION.* Calls for a vote of the people on an amendment to Art. I, Sec. 24, of NC Constitution to provide as title indicates; defendant retains right to jury trial if he or she so chooses. Amendment is to be submitted to the voters at Nov. 2002 general election. Amends GS 15A-1201 to implement the change, in the event amendment passes. Statute provides that waiver must be in writing and that trial is heard and judgment rendered by court if jury trial is waived. Amendment to GS 15A-1201 becomes effective Jan. 1, 2003, but only if constitutional amendment is approved. Remainder of bill is effective when it becomes law.

Intro. by Sutton.

Ref. to Judiciary I	GS CONST, 15A
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