June 17, 2002

S 1434. GUN TRAFFICKING. TO INCREASE THE ENFORCEMENT OF STATE LAWS TO COMBAT GUN TRAFFICKING. Establishes new GS 114, art. 6A, to establish a Crime Gun Interdiction Program. Creates within the N.C. Dep't of Justice a Crime Gun Interdiction Task Force to develop and carry out a strategy for stopping the movement of illegal guns into and out of North Carolina. Establishes a Task Force Policy Board to consist of Attorney General, Sec'y of Crime Control and Public Safety, State Bureau of Investigation Director, an agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, a representative from the N.C. Sheriffs' Ass'n, N.C. District Attorneys' Ass'n, N.C. Fraternal Order of Police, N.C. Police Benevolent Ass'n, the U.S. Attorneys from the three North Carolina districts, the state coordinators of the Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, one gubernatorial appointee, one member appointed by the House Speaker, and one member appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate. Directs the Policy Board to develop policies, commission an annual report, apply for federal monies, and develop a firearm trafficking education program.

Amends GS 14-2.2 to make it a Class I felony to remove or obliterate a serial number on a firearm. Amends GS 14-415.1(a) to make it a Class F felony for a felon to possess a firearm with a barrel length of less than 18 inches or an overall length of 26 inches, or any weapon of mass destruction (was Class G felony). Effective Dec. 1, 2002, with respect to offenses committed on or after that date

Adds new GS Ch. 14, art. 53D ("Mental Health Records Access"). Establishes a database to be administered by the N.C. Dep't of Health and Human Services of those persons who have been found to be mentally incompetent or that have been involuntarily committed. Establishes a procedure for allowing such persons to obtain a permit to carry a concealed handgun or to purchase a weapon under GS 14-404. Makes this part effective only after the Dep't of Health and Human Services obtains federal funding to implement this authority.

Intro. by Lee.

To be referred 6-18 GS 14, 114