April 10, 2003

H 1023. UNDERINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE. TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF UNDERINSURED HIGHWAY VEHICLE TO PROVIDE GREATER PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS INJURED IN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS. Amends GS 20-279.21(b)(4) definition of "underinsured highway vehicle" to include situations where vehicle is insured, but where available funds are insufficient to pay bodily injury damages sustained in an accident (was, defined as situations where policy limits were below required underinsured motorist coverage). Makes conforming changes. Effective Oct. 1, 2003.

Intro. by Goodwin.

Ref. to Judiciary II	GS 20
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April 28, 2003

H 1023. UNDERINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE. Intro. 4/10/03. House committee substitute adopted 4/24/03 makes the following changes to 1st edition: (1) reinstates current language of GS 20-279.21(b)(4) to provide that the sum of the limits of liability under all bodily injury liability bonds and insurance policies applicable at the time of the accident is less than the applicable limits of underinsured motorist coverage for the vehicle involved in the accident and insured under the owner's policy (was, the sum of the limits of liability under bonds and policies "available for payment for bodily injury is insufficient to pay damages for bodily injury of all persons injured at the time of the accident."); (2) provides that for purposes of an underinsured motorist claim asserted by a person injured in an accident where more than one person is injured, a highway vehicle will also be an "underinsured highway vehicle" if the total amount actually paid to that person under all bodily injury liability bonds and insurance policies applicable at the time of the accident is less than the applicable limits of underinsured motorist coverage for the vehicle involved in the accident and the insured under the owner's policy