

April 3, 2003

S 1017. DETECTOR DOGS REG./FEE REQUIREMENTS. TO AMEND THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AND FEES TO ENGAGE IN CERTAIN ACTIVITIES WITH CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES. Adds new GS 90-102.1 to provide specifically for dog handlers who engage in certain activities involving controlled substances that are regulated by the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHR). Requires dog handlers (including dog trainers) to register as researchers when using controlled substances in the training of their dogs and to pay a registration fee of \$160.

Provides that HHR may not require, as a condition of registration, any of the following: (1) evidence of federal registration (2) evidence of a connection with a law enforcement agency; (3) evidence that law enforcement resources are inadequate to protect the public; (4) evidence of the applicant's prior experience in canine drug detection or the handling of controlled substances, (5) geographic limitations regarding where controlled substances may be used; and (6) that the dog handler report to a law enforcement agency any discovery of controlled substances unless the quantity exceeds (a) 42.5 grams of marijuana; (b) seven grams of another controlled substance sold by weight; and (c) ten dosage units of any other controlled substance not sold by weight. Authorizes a dog handler who provides commercial detection services for controlled substances to weigh and turn over controlled substances to a law enforcement agency, but shields the dog handler from being charged with unlawful possession. Prohibits a dog handler providing such service from being required to disclose to the agency whether a controlled substance was found unless the amounts exceed the quantities above. Makes a dog handler's records confidential unless subpoenaed or the quantity exceeds the thresholds set forth above.

Intro. by Berger.

Ref. to	GS 90
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