

April 21, 2005

H 1345. LIMIT CERTAIN SELF-SERVICE DRUG PURCHASES. *TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN PSEUDOEPHEDRINE PRODUCTS SHALL NOT BE OFFERED FOR SELF-SERVICE SALES AND SHALL BE STORED BEHIND THE COUNTER, TO PROVIDE THAT STEALING A PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS MORE THAN NINE GRAMS OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE IS FELONY LARCENY, TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS BY CERTAIN PERSONS, AND TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE TASK FORCE.* Enacts new GS 90-94.1 to require that products with tablets containing 30 milligrams or more of pseudoephedrine must have each tablet in a blister package and may not be made available for self-service retail sale. Prohibits purchase in any single over-the-counter sale of more than nine grams of any product containing pseudoephedrine as the sole active ingredient. Exempts specified pediatric and gel capsule products. Provides retailer is not penalized for violations if an approved employee training program was conducted and the employee involved in the improper sale received the training. Makes violation a Class 1 misdemeanor for first offense and Class I felony for second and subsequent offenses. Amends GS 14-72(b) to make theft of more than nine grams of pseudoephedrine a felony. Enacts new GS 66-254.1 to prohibit sale of products containing three or more grams of pseudoephedrine by itinerant merchants, peddlers, and specialty market operators and vendors. Enacts new GS 114-44 to establish a ten-member NC Methamphetamine Abuse Task Force located in the Dep't of Justice for administrative purposes. Specifies membership and terms of task force members, with terms to commence September 1, 2005. Appropriates \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Dep't of Justice for 2005-06 and \$25,000 for 2006-07 for Task Force implementation. Provision on Task Force effective September 1, 2005, budgetary provisions July 1, 2005, and remainder of act December 1, 2005, and applicable to offenses committed on or after that date.

Intro. by Haire.

Ref. to Judiciary III

GS 14, 66, 90, 114, APPROP