May 10, 2006

H 1903. INCREASE PROTECTION FROM SEX OFFENDERS/FUNDS. Filed 5/10/06. TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO FULLY FUND THE NORTH CAROLINA SEX OFFENDER WATCH PROGRAM, TO HELP FUND INCREASED LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND ADULTS FROM SEX OFFENDERS, AND TO ASSIST WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING NEEDS AT THE JUSTICE ACADEMY, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION LAWS. Appropriates from General Fund to the Department of Justice \$929,736 for 2006-07 to help implement a new program and support increased law enforcement efforts to protect children and adults from sex offenders. More specifically the legislative proposal does the following:

- Fully funds the North Carolina Sex Offender Watch Program which enables citizens of a community to be notified by e-mail immediately when a sex offender moves into their neighborhood and to view maps that show exactly where an offender lives in relation to a neighborhood, school, day care center, business, or any other location of concern.
- Funds positions for five new SBI computer crime and forensics investigators to increase undercover law enforcement efforts to catch child predators and assist with analysis of computer forensic evidence.
- Funds positions for two new DNA investigators to help with DNA processing.
- Funds three new staff positions at the Justice Academy to assist with law enforcement training.

Effective July 1, 2006.

Intro. by Ray, Goforth, Glazier.

**APPROP**