April 18, 2007

H 1815. PARAMEDICS CAN SCREEN ARRESTED PERSONS. Filed 4/18/07. TO PREVENT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM TAKING AN ARRESTED PERSON TO JAIL IF THE ARRESTED PERSON COMPLAINS OF INJURY OR SERIOUS ILLNESS, UNLESS A PARAMEDIC FIRST PERFORMS AN EXAMINATION OF THE ARRESTED PERSON AND CONCLUDES THAT THE PERSON DOES NOT NEED FURTHER MEDICAL TREATMENT.

Enacts new GS 131E-161.1, as title indicates. Requires that if a person arrested by a law enforcement officer informs the officer that the person has a serious bodily injury or serious illness that requires immediate medical attention that cannot be provided by available personnel, that person cannot be taken to jail until either (1) the person receives medical care at a hospital or other facility that obviates the need for further immediate medical care; or (2) a paramedic concludes, after performing an examination of the person, that the person does not need any medical care that cannot be provided by available personnel. Provides that the paramedic who performs the examination, an EMS Provider with which a paramedic who performs an examination volunteers or is employed, a law enforcement officer that complies with the requirements of this section, and the law enforcement officer's employer are not liable for the death of, or injury to, arrested persons. Effective October 1, 2007.

Intro. by Folwell. GS 131E