

January 25, 2007

**H 21. RECOVERY OF COSTS IN CIVIL CASES.** Filed 1/25/07. *TO CLARIFY THE COURT'S DISCRETION TO ALLOW COURT COSTS.* Resolves conflicting interpretations by the Court of Appeals relating to court costs by amending GS 6-20 and GS 7A-305(d) to specify that the court's discretion to award costs is limited to costs recoverable under GS 7A-305(d), subject to statutory exceptions but not to common law exceptions. Amends GS 7A-305(d) to include as recoverable costs (1) mediator fees and (2) deposition and expert witness fees that are reasonable and necessary. Makes technical change to GS 6-19. Effective for motions filed on or after May 1, 2007.

**Intro. by Glazier, Ross, Jones, Spear.**

GS 6, 7A

June 26, 2007

**H 21. RECOVERY OF COSTS IN CIVIL CASES.** Filed 1/25/07. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Modifies amendments to GS 6-20 to clarify that (1) costs may be allowed in the discretion of the court in actions where the General Statutes do not otherwise provide for an allowance of costs and (2) costs awarded by the court are subject to the limitations on assessable or recoverable costs set forth in GS 7A-305(d), unless *specifically* provided for otherwise in the General Statutes. Provides that GS 7A-305(d) and GS 6-20 are not intended to (1) limit the trial court's authority to award fees and expenses or (2) reverse or modify any orders awarding costs, in connection with pre-trial discovery. Makes technical changes. Changes the effective date from May 1, 2007, to August 1, 2007.

July 12, 2007

**SL 2007-212 (H 21). RECOVERY OF COSTS IN CIVIL CASES. AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE COURT'S DISCRETION TO ALLOW COURT COSTS.** Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 1/25/07 and 6/26/07. Enacted July 11, 2007. Effective August 1, 2007.