

April 7, 2009

**H 1194. REFORM LEGISLATIVE ETHICS.** Filed 4/7/09. *TO PROVIDE THAT THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION SHALL HEAR ETHICS COMPLAINTS AGAINST LEGISLATORS.*

As title indicates, amends GS Chapter 138A (the State Government Ethics Act) to allow the State Ethics Commission (Commission) to conduct inquiries and hear ethics complaints against legislators instead of referring such complaints to the Legislative Ethics Committee (Committee). Also allows the Commission to conduct inquiries and hear complaints against legislative employees instead of referring such complaints to "the employing entity." If the Commission finds an ethical violation, it must issue recommendations for punishment of the legislator or legislative employee, and refer the matter to the Committee or to "the employing entity." Also provides that meetings of the Commission are subject to the public meeting rules of Article 33C of GS Chapter 143.

Effective January 1, 2010, for complaints filed on or after that date.

**Intro. by Blust.**

GS 138A