

April 8, 2009

**H 1260. VOTER PREREGISTRATION AND EDUCATION.** Filed 4/8/09. *TO PROVIDE FOR PREREGISTRATION OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND TO EXPAND INSTRUCTION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF VOTING IN THE HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM AND TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO PROMOTE REGISTRATION AND PREREGISTRATION OF STUDENTS.*

Amends GS 163-82.1 to add new GS 163-82.1(d) to allow "preregistration" of those young people who are at least 16 years old but will not be 18 by the date of the next election if they are otherwise qualified to register. Provides that when they preregister they automatically become registered upon reaching their age of eligibility following verification of each's qualifications and address. Allows those eligible to use the State Board of Elections form for voter registration to use it to preregister. Amends GS 163-82.4(d) to make various clarifying and conforming changes to voter registration application form.

Adds new GS 163-82.6(f) to direct the county board of elections to forward each application for preregistration to the State Board of Elections. Directs the state board, no later than 60 days prior to the first election in which the applicant is entitled to vote, to notify the county board of elections to verify the qualifications and address of the applicant pursuant to GS 163-82.7

Directs the Division of Motor Vehicles to revise its driver's-license-related application form to allow an applicant to apply to preregister to vote as well. Amends GS 163-82.23 to direct public high schools to make available application forms to preregister to vote as well as to register to vote.

Amends GS 163-82.25 to direct the Governor to proclaim as Citizens Awareness Month the month designated by the State Board of Elections each year (now, every even-numbered year). Directs each county board of elections to conduct voter registration and preregistration drives at public high schools in accordance with local board of election policies, school system administrative procedures, and guidelines of the state board of elections.

Amends GS 115C-81(g1) to direct the State Board of Elections to include in the high school civic and citizenship education curriculum instruction on voter registration and preregistration, effective beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Adds new GS 115C-47(53) encouraging local boards of education to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and preregistration and to collaborate with efforts by county boards of elections. Prohibits, however, making completion and submission of voter registration or preregistration forms a course requirement or graded assignment for students.

Effective January 1, 2010.

**Intro. by Bryant, Cotham.**

GS 115C, 163

August 4, 2009

**H 1260. CONFORM STATE LAW/FIREARM DISENTITLEMENT (NEW).** Filed 4/8/09. Senate committee substitute deletes all provisions of 1st edition and *creates AN ACT TO CONFORM STATE LAW WITH FEDERAL LAW REGARDING DISENTITLEMENT TO PURCHASE, OWN, POSSESS OR CONTROL A FIREARM AFTER THE FELONY CONVICTION OF CERTAIN WHITE COLLAR CRIMINAL OFFENSES.* Amends GS 14-415.1 to exclude from the firearm disqualification provisions convictions for antitrust violations, unfair trade practices, restraints of trade, or other similar offenses relating to the regulation of business practices. Effective December 1, 2009 and applicable only to offenses committed on or after the effective date.

June 29, 2010

**H 1260. AMEND FELONY FIREARM ACT/CLARIFY BRITT CASE.** Filed 4/8/09. Conference report makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Deletes prior edition and substitutes proposed new GS 14-415.4 allowing restoration of firearm rights to residents convicted of a non-violent felony provided it did not involve certain elements of assault or possession of a firearm or other prohibited weapon and the person's citizenship rights have been restored for at least 20 years. Enumerates criteria to qualify for petition and ten disqualifying conditions. Specifies procedure for petition to district court. Specifies procedure for petitioning upon denial of a petition. Includes

provision for the automatic revocation of firearm rights upon conviction of a subsequent felony. Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to submit false information under the statute. Enacts new GS 114-19.28 specifying procedure for criminal records check of petitioner. Makes other conforming changes to other criminal law statutes. Effective February 1, 2011.

Effective when the act becomes law, requires the Attorney General to send a copy of the act to specified federal entities for review and for determination of specified issues; requires a report on the response to specified legislative committees.

July 28, 2010

**SL 2010-108 (H 1260). CONFORM STATE LAW/FIREARM DISENTITLEMENT. AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON CONVICTED ONLY OF A SINGLE NONVIOLENT FELONY AND NO VIOLENT MISDEMEANORS AND WHOSE CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS HAVE BEEN RESTORED FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS MAY PETITION THE COURT TO RESTORE THE PERSON'S FIREARMS RIGHTS IN THIS STATE SO THAT THE DISENTITLEMENT UNDER THE FELONY FIREARMS ACT DOES NOT APPLY AND ALSO TO AMEND THE FELONY FIREARMS ACT TO ALLOW EXCEPTIONS FOR CERTAIN WHITE COLLAR CRIME CONVICTIONS THAT ARE SIMILAR TO THE EXCEPTIONS ALLOWED UNDER FEDERAL LAW.** Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 8/4/09 and 6/29/10. Enacted July 20, 2010. Section 6 is effective July 20, 2010. The remainder is effective February 1, 2011.