April 9, 2009

H 1304. INVESTIGATIVE GRAND JURY. Filed 4/8/09. TO ALLOW CONVENING OF AN INVESTIGATIVE GRAND JURY.

Enacts GS 15A-632 to allow an investigative grand jury to be convened to investigate an allegation regarding various offenses listed in the bill. Beginning July 1, 2010, and every two years thereafter, directs the Chief Justice to appoint a permanent panel of three superior court judges, who serve a term of two years, to determine whether a grand jury should be convened. Recodifies 15A-622(h) as GS 15A-632(c) (procedure for determining whether to convene an investigative grand jury) and requires petitions filed by the district attorney or a special prosecutor for convening an investigative grand jury to be forwarded to the Chief Justice for referral to the three-judge panel to determine whether to order the grand jury convened. Also removes the requirement that petitions for convening a grand jury be approved by a committee of the North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys with concurrence of the Attorney General. Recodifies GS 15A-623(h) as GS 15A-632(d) (Investigative grand jury proceedings and operations). Makes conforming and technical changes. Effective January 1, 2010.

Intro. by Blust. GS 15A