

March 26, 2009

S 1013. CITIZENS' RIGHT TO KNOW ACT/PRETRIAL RELEASE. Filed 3/25/09. *TO DIRECT EACH PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM TO PREPARE AND MAINTAIN A PUBLIC REGISTER THAT MAKES READILY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM AND THE DEFENDANTS RELEASED THROUGH THE PROGRAM, TO REQUIRE THAT A COPY OF THE REGISTER BE LOCATED IN THE OFFICE OF THE APPROPRIATE CLERK OF COURT, AND TO REQUIRE THAT EACH PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT THAT INCLUDES CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM AND THE DEFENDANTS RELEASED THROUGH THE PROGRAM TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE CLERK OF COURT IN THE APPROPRIATE COUNTY.*

Reconfigures GS Chapter 132, which addresses public records, into two new articles. Article 1, entitled General Provisions includes the current provisions in GS 132-1 through GS 132-10. Article 2 includes the new provisions entitled the Citizens Right to Know Act. Requires every pretrial release program to prepare a register and display the register at the office of the clerk of superior court in the county where the program is located. Requires such registers to include specific information, including information about the pretrial release program, names of defendants accepted into the program, information about the defendants' past crimes and convictions, and information about defendants' compliance with program requirements. Requires each pretrial release program to submit annual reports to the county commissioners and the clerk of superior court that include detailed information about the operations and finances of the program and statistics about program participants by March 1 of each year. Requires such reports be readily accessible to the public. Effective October 1, 2009.

Intro. by Berger of Franklin.

GS 132