

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL DRS45377-MS-123A (03/20)

Short Title: Strengthening Victims' Rights. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Barringer, B. Jackson, and Daniel (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW AND CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO
3 PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTIONS AND SAFEGUARDS TO VICTIMS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. Section 37 of Article I of the North Carolina Constitution reads as
6 rewritten:

7 "Sec. 37. Rights of victims of crime.

8 (1) Basic rights. Victims of ~~crime, as prescribed by law, crime~~ shall be entitled to the
9 following basic rights:

- 10 (a) ~~The right as prescribed by law to be informed of and to be present at court~~
11 right, upon request, to reasonable and timely notice of, and to be present at,
12 criminal and juvenile proceedings of the accused.
- 13 (b) ~~The right to be heard at sentencing or disposition of the accused in a manner~~
14 prescribed by law, and at other times as prescribed by law or deemed
15 appropriate by the court.any proceeding involving release, plea, or parole
16 and during which a right of the victim is implicated.
- 17 (c) ~~The right as prescribed by law to receive restitution.~~ full and timely
18 restitution from the defendant.
- 19 (d) ~~The right as prescribed by law to be given information about the crime, how~~
20 ~~the criminal justice system works, the rights of victims, and the availability~~
21 ~~of services for victims.~~
- 22 (e) ~~The right as prescribed by law to receive information about the conviction or~~
23 ~~final disposition and sentence of the accused.~~
- 24 (f) ~~The right as prescribed by law~~ right, upon request, to receive notification of
25 escape, release, proposed parole or pardon of the accused, or notice of a
26 reprieve or commutation of the accused's sentence.
- 27 (g) ~~The right as prescribed by law to present their views and concerns to the~~
28 ~~Governor or agency considering any action that could result in the release of~~
29 ~~the accused, prior to such action becoming effective.~~
- 30 (h) ~~The right as prescribed by law to confer with the prosecution.~~
- 31 (i) The right to reasonable protection from the accused or anyone acting at the
32 direction of the accused.
- 33 (j) The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay and a prompt
34 conclusion of the case.
- 35 (k) The right to be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's dignity and
36 privacy.



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