

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

H.B. 700
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40326-LM-93

Short Title: Sheriff's Deputies/Dismissals. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative A. Jones.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT PROVIDING THAT A SHERIFF SHALL NOT DISCHARGE A DEPUTY SHERIFF
3 OR OTHER EMPLOYEE IN THE OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF FOR FAILING TO MAKE
4 A CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION TO THE SHERIFF OR THE SHERIFF'S CAMPAIGN
5 COMMITTEE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 153A-103 reads as rewritten:

8 "**§ 153A-103. Number of employees in offices of sheriff and register of deeds.**

9 Subject to the limitations set forth below, the board of commissioners may fix the number of
10 salaried employees in the offices of the sheriff and the register of deeds. In exercising the
11 authority granted by this section, the board of commissioners is subject to the following
12 limitations:

- 13 (1) Each sheriff and register of deeds elected by the people has the exclusive right
14 to hire, discharge, and supervise the employees in ~~his office. However, the his~~
15 or her office; provided, however, a sheriff shall not discharge a deputy sheriff
16 or other employee for failing to make a campaign contribution to the sheriff
17 or the sheriff's campaign committee. The board of commissioners must
18 approve the appointment by such an officer of a relative by blood or marriage
19 of nearer kinship than first cousin or of a person who has been convicted of a
20 crime involving moral turpitude.
- 21 (2) Each sheriff and register of deeds elected by the people is entitled to at least
22 two deputies who shall be reasonably compensated by the county, provided
23 that the register of deeds justifies to the Board of County Commissioners the
24 necessity of the second deputy. Each deputy so appointed shall serve at the
25 pleasure of the appointing officer.

26 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, approval of the board of
27 commissioners is not required for the reappointment or continued employment of a near relative
28 of a sheriff or register of deeds who was not related to the appointing officer at the time of initial
29 appointment."

30 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

