

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 95
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40000-ML-7A

Short Title: Threaten Elected Official/Increase Punishment. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Kidwell.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT IMPOSED FOR A THREAT AGAINST A
3 LOCAL ELECTED OFFICER AND TO REQUIRE THE EXECUTION OF A SECURED
4 APPEARANCE BOND FOR A CERTAIN AMOUNT FOR ANY PERSON CHARGED
5 WITH MAKING A THREAT AGAINST AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER, LEGISLATIVE
6 OFFICER, COURT OFFICER, LOCAL ELECTED OFFICER, OR ELECTION OFFICER.
7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 SECTION 1. Article 5A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes reads as rewritten:
9 "Article 5A.

10 "Endangering Executive, Legislative, ~~and Court~~ Court, and Local Elected Officers.

11 ...
12 "**§ 14-16.7. Threats against executive, legislative, ~~or court~~ court, or local elected officers.**

13 (a) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes any threat to inflict serious bodily
14 injury upon or to kill any legislative officer, executive officer, ~~or court~~ or local elected
15 officer, or who knowingly and willfully makes any threat to inflict serious bodily injury upon or
16 kill any other person as retaliation against any legislative officer, executive officer, ~~or court~~
17 ~~officer~~ officer, or local elected officer because of the exercise of that officer's duties, shall be
18 guilty of a felony and shall be punished as a Class I felon.

19 (b) Any person who knowingly and willfully deposits for conveyance in the mail any
20 letter, writing, or other document containing a threat to commit an offense described in subsection
21 (a) of this section shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished as a Class I felon.

22 "**§ 14-16.8. No requirement of receipt of the threat.**

23 In prosecutions under G.S. 14-16.7 of this Article it shall not be necessary to prove that any
24 legislative officer, executive officer, ~~or court~~ ~~officer~~ officer, or local elected officer actually
25 received the threatening communication or actually believed the threat.

26 ...
27 "**§ 14-16.10. Definitions.**

28 The following definitions apply in this Article:

- 29 (1) Court officer. – Magistrate, clerk of superior court, acting clerk, assistant or
30 deputy clerk, judge, or justice of the General Court of Justice; district attorney,
31 assistant district attorney, or any other attorney designated by the district
32 attorney to act for the State or on behalf of the district attorney; public
33 defender or assistant defender; court reporter; juvenile court counselor as
34 defined in G.S. 7B-1501(18a); any attorney or other individual employed by,
35 contracted by, or acting on behalf of a county department of social services,
36 as defined in G.S. 108A-24; any attorney or other individual appointed



1 pursuant to G.S. 7B-601 or G.S. 7B-1108 or employed by the Guardian ad
2 Litem Services Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

3 (2) Executive officer. – A person named in G.S. 147-3(c).

4 (3) Legislative officer. – A person named in G.S. 147-2(1), (2), or (3).

5 (4) Local elected officer. – An elected officer of a political subdivision of this
6 State."

7 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-275(11) reads as rewritten:

8 "(11) For any person, by threats, menaces or in any other manner, to intimidate or
9 attempt to intimidate any chief judge, judge of election or other election
10 officer in the discharge ~~of~~of, or because of, duties in the registration of voters
11 or in conducting any primary or election."

12 **SECTION 3.** Article 26 of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes is amended by
13 adding a new section to read:

14 "**§ 15A-534.9. Threats against public officers; bail.**

15 In all cases in which the defendant is charged with a violation of G.S. 14-16.7 or
16 G.S. 163-275(11), and in addition to any other applicable provisions of G.S. 15A-534, the
17 judicial official who determines the conditions of pretrial release shall require the defendant to
18 execute a secured appearance bond in an amount no less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)."

19 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2025, and applies to offenses
20 committed on or after that date.