

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 674

Short Title: Sex Offender Registry/Public Info.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Odom; Albertson, Allran, Carpenter, Carrington, Cochrane, Cooper, East, Forrester, Foxx, Garwood, Gulley, Hoyle, Jordan, Kincaid, McDaniel, Page, Perdue, Phillips, Plyler, Rand, Reeves, Rucho, Warren, Webster, Weinstein, and Winner.

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Referred to: Judiciary.

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April 2, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN INFORMATION IN THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTER IS PUBLIC INFORMATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 14-208.10 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.10. ~~Access~~ **Registration information is public record: access to registration information.**

(a) ~~To obtain information concerning an individual's registration status, a requester shall submit to the sheriff the following:~~

(1) ~~The individual's name and sex;~~

(2) ~~A physical description of the individual; and~~

(3) ~~Any other relevant information known to the requester concerning the individual.~~

~~Upon receipt of the information, the sheriff shall verify, in writing, to the requester whether the individual has registered as a sex offender in this State, the date of conviction, and the offenses for which registration was required. The registration information and the corresponding registry is a public record and shall be available for public inspection. The sheriff shall upon request, display any photograph provided in~~

1 ~~compliance with G.S. 14-208.7(b)(3); however, the sheriff shall not provide or allow a~~  
2 ~~copy to be made of the photograph.~~

3 The following information regarding a person required to register under this Article is  
4 public record and shall be available for public inspection: name, sex, address, physical  
5 description, picture, conviction date, offense for which registration was required, the  
6 sentence imposed as a result of the conviction, and registration status. The sheriff may  
7 release any other information that is necessary to protect the public concerning a specific  
8 person, but shall not release the identity of the victim of the offense that required  
9 registration under this Article.

10 (b) ~~Any person may obtain a copy of an individual's registration form, excluding the~~  
11 ~~photograph, upon payment to the sheriff of a reasonable fee for the costs of duplicating the form.~~  
12 form, a part of the registry, or all of the registry, by submitting a written request for the  
13 information to the sheriff and paying the fee for duplicating costs. However, the identity  
14 of the victim of an offense that requires registration under this Article shall not be  
15 released.

16 (c) ~~The sheriff of each county is authorized, upon written request, to provide a~~  
17 ~~copy of the entire registry to any group, entity, organization, corporation, or school, that~~  
18 ~~utilizes volunteers or employees in working with, caring for, supervising or protecting~~  
19 ~~children or disabled or elderly persons. The sheriff may charge a reasonable fee for~~  
20 ~~duplicating costs and for mailing costs when appropriate."~~

21 Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.