

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 787  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/30/09  
Senate Judiciary I Committee Substitute Adopted 6/8/09

Short Title: Increase Penalty/Remove Serial # From Gun.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 26, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR ALTERING, DESTROYING,  
3 OR REMOVING THE PERMANENT SERIAL NUMBER OF A FIREARM AND FOR  
4 POSSESSING A FIREARM WITH THE SERIAL NUMBER REMOVED.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-160.1(c) reads as rewritten:

7 "(c) Unless the conduct is covered under some other provision of law providing greater  
8 punishment, A a violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be a Class 1  
9 misdemeanor."

10 **SECTION 2.** Article 23 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by  
11 adding a new section to read:

12 "**§ 14-160.2. Alteration, destruction, or removal of serial number from firearm;**  
13 **possession of firearm with serial number removed.**

14 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to alter, deface, destroy, or remove the  
15 permanent serial number, manufacturer's identification plate, or other permanent distinguishing  
16 number or identification mark from any firearm with the intent thereby to conceal or  
17 misrepresent the identity of the firearm.

18 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to sell, buy, or be in possession of any  
19 firearm on which the permanent serial number, manufacturer's identification plate, or other  
20 permanent distinguishing number or identification mark has been altered, defaced, destroyed,  
21 or removed for the purpose of concealing or misrepresenting the identity of the firearm.

22 (c) A violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be a Class H felony."

23 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2009, and applies to  
24 offenses committed on or after that date.

