

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

S

1

SENATE BILL 596

Short Title: Disorderly Conduct/Unreasonable Noise. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Edwards, Daniel, and Ford (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 4, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON COMMITS DISORDERLY CONDUCT IF THE PERSON MAKES UNREASONABLE NOISE WITH THE INTENT TO INFRINGE UPON ANOTHER PERSON'S EXERCISE OF HIS OR HER RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH OR TO CAUSE PUBLIC INCONVENIENCE, ANNOYANCE, ALARM, OR DISRUPTION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-288.4 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-288.4. **Disorderly conduct.**

...

(a1) A person commits the offense of disorderly conduct if the person makes unreasonable noise (i) with the intent to infringe upon another person's exercise of his or her right to free speech or to otherwise cause public inconvenience, annoyance, alarm, or disruption or (ii) in a careless or reckless manner so as to create the risk of infringing upon another person's exercise of his or her right to free speech or the risk of otherwise causing public inconvenience, annoyance, alarm, or disruption.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, any person who willfully engages in disorderly conduct in violation of subsections (a) or (a1) of this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

...."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

