

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 335

Short Title: Increase Penalty/Disruption of Open Meeting. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Galey, Daniel, and Lazzara (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 24, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR DISRUPTING AN OFFICIAL MEETING OF  
3 A PUBLIC BODY.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

6 "**§ 14-288.4. Disorderly conduct.**

7 (a) Disorderly conduct is a public disturbance intentionally caused by any person who  
8 does any of the following:

9 ...

10 (9) Engages in conduct which disturbs the peace or order of an official meeting  
11 of a public body as defined in G.S. 143-318.10.

12 (a1) As used in this section the term "building or facility" includes the surrounding  
13 grounds and premises of any building or facility used in connection with the operation or  
14 functioning of such building or facility.

15 ...

16 (c) A person who commits a violation of subdivision (8) or (9) of subsection (a) of this  
17 section is guilty of:

18 (1) A Class 1 misdemeanor for a first offense.

19 (2) A Class I felony for a second offense.

20 (3) A Class H felony for a third or subsequent offense."

21 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 143-318.17 is repealed.

22 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to offenses  
23 committed on or after that date.

