

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

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HOUSE BILL 328  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/25/25  
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 4/8/25  
Senate Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 6/17/25  
Proposed Conference Committee Substitute H328-PCCS30639-CE-1

Short Title: Regulate Hemp-Derived Consumables.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 10, 2025

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CONFORM NORTH CAROLINA HEMP LAW WITH FEDERAL  
3 STANDARDS, TO PROHIBIT HEMP-DERIVED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS FROM  
4 BEING POSSESSED BY OR SOLD TO PERSONS UNDER AGE TWENTY-ONE, TO  
5 UPDATE THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT, TO REGULATE KRATOM  
6 PRODUCTS, AND TO ADD XYLAZINE AS A SCHEDULE III CONTROLLED  
7 SUBSTANCE.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9  
10 **CONFORM NORTH CAROLINA HEMP DEFINITION WITH NEW FEDERAL**  
11 **DEFINITION**

12 **SECTION 1.(a)** Findings. – The General Assembly finds all of the following:

- 13 (1) On November 12, 2025, Congress enacted Public Law 119-37, Division B,  
14 Section 781, which amends the federal definition of hemp under 7 U.S.C. §  
15 1639o by replacing the prior delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol threshold with a  
16 total tetrahydrocannabinol standard inclusive of tetrahydrocannabinolic acid  
17 and delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol.  
18 (2) The amended federal standard becomes effective November 12, 2026, and  
19 imposes a ceiling of four-tenths of one milligram (0.4 mg) of total  
20 tetrahydrocannabinol per container on final hemp-derived cannabinoid  
21 products intended for human or animal consumption.  
22 (3) The prior delta-9-only measurement permitted the proliferation of intoxicating  
23 cannabinoid products, including products derived from  
24 tetrahydrocannabinolic acid and from delta-8 and delta-10  
25 tetrahydrocannabinol, that were marketed to consumers notwithstanding their  
26 intoxicating effects.  
27 (4) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the State standard for hemp and  
28 hemp-derived consumable products conform in substance to the federal  
29 total-THC standard, that the State possess independent authority to enforce  
30 that standard, and that the State standard remain in effect notwithstanding any  
31 subsequent federal action that would weaken or repeal the total-THC standard.

32 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 90-87 reads as rewritten:

33 **"§ 90-87. Definitions.**



\* H 3 2 8 - P C C S 3 0 6 3 9 - C E - 1 \*

As used in this Article:

(13a) "Hemp" means the plant Cannabis sativa (L.) and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a ~~delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis.~~total tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis. For purposes of this definition, total tetrahydrocannabinol means the sum of the concentration of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol and eighty-seven and seven-tenths percent (87.7%) of the concentration of tetrahydrocannabinolic acid, together with the concentration of any other tetrahydrocannabinol, including delta-7, delta-8, and delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol. The term does not include any synthetic or chemically converted cannabinoid.

(13b) "Hemp products" means all products made from hemp, including, but not limited to, cloth, cordage, fiber, food, fuel, paint, paper, particleboard, plastics, seed, seed meal and seed oil for consumption, and verified propagules for cultivation if the seeds originate from hemp varieties.

(24a) "Prohibited finished hemp-derived consumable product" means a final-form consumable product intended for human ingestion or inhalation that contains: (i) more than four-tenths of one milligram (0.4 mg) of total tetrahydrocannabinol per container, measured as the innermost packaging in direct contact with the product offered for retail sale, or (ii) any synthetic or chemically converted cannabinoid.

...."

SECTION 1.(c) G.S. 90-94 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-94. Schedule VI controlled substances.

(a) This schedule includes the controlled substances listed or to be listed by whatever official name, common or usual name, chemical name, or trade name designated. In determining that such substance comes within this schedule, the Commission shall find: no currently accepted medical use in the United States, or a relatively low potential for abuse in terms of risk to public health and potential to produce psychic or physiological dependence liability based upon present medical knowledge, or a need for further and continuing study to develop scientific evidence of its pharmacological effects.

(b) The following controlled substances are included in this schedule:

(1) Marijuana.

(2) Tetrahydrocannabinols, except for tetrahydrocannabinols found in a product with a ~~delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis.~~total tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis. For purposes of this section, total tetrahydrocannabinol means the sum of the concentration of delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol and eighty-seven and seven-tenths percent (87.7%) of the concentration of tetrahydrocannabinolic acid, together with the concentration of any other tetrahydrocannabinol, including delta-7, delta-8, and delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol.

...

(4) A prohibited finished hemp-derived consumable product.

1 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any prescription drug approved by the  
2 federal Food and Drug Administration under Section 505 of the federal Food, Drug, and  
3 Cosmetic Act that is designated, rescheduled, or deleted as a controlled substance under federal  
4 law by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration shall be excluded from Schedule VI  
5 and may be prescribed, distributed, dispensed, and used in accordance with federal law upon the  
6 issuance of a notice, final rule, or interim final rule by the United States Drug Enforcement  
7 Administration that designates, reschedules, or deletes such prescription drug as a controlled  
8 substance under federal law, unless the Commission objects to such action as provided under  
9 G.S. 90-88(d). If the Commission does not object as provided under G.S. 90-88(d), the  
10 prescription drug shall be deemed to be designated, rescheduled, or deleted as a controlled  
11 substance in accordance with federal law and in compliance with this Chapter."

12 **SECTION 1.(d)** This section becomes effective November 12, 2026, and applies to  
13 offenses committed and to products manufactured, sold, delivered, or possessed on or after that  
14 date.

## 15 16 **PROHIBIT POSSESSION OF HEMP-DERIVED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS UNDER** 17 **THE AGE OF 21**

18 **SECTION 2.(a)** Article 39 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by  
19 adding a new section to read:

### 20 **"§ 14-313.1. Possession of hemp-derived consumable products under age 21 prohibited.**

21 (a) Definitions. – Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply  
22 in this section:

- 23 (1) Deliver. – The actual, constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to  
24 another of a substance, whether or not there is an agency relationship.
- 25 (2) Hemp. – As defined in G.S. 90-87.
- 26 (3) Hemp-derived cannabinoid. – Any phytocannabinoid found in hemp,  
27 including delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-9 THC), tetrahydrocannabinolic  
28 acid (THCA), cannabidiol (CBD), cannabidiolic acid (CBDA), cannabinol  
29 (CBN), cannabigerol (CBG), cannabichromene (CBC), cannabicyclol (CBL),  
30 cannabivarin (CBV), tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV), cannabidivarin  
31 (CBDV), cannabicitran (CBT), delta-7 tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-7 THC),  
32 delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-8 THC), or delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol  
33 (delta-10 THC). This term also includes any synthetic cannabinoid derived  
34 from hemp and contained in a hemp-derived consumable product.
- 35 (4) Hemp-derived consumable product. – A hemp product that is a finished good  
36 intended for human ingestion or inhalation that contains any concentration of  
37 any hemp-derived cannabinoid. This term does not include hemp products  
38 intended for topical application or seeds or seed-derived ingredients that are  
39 generally recognized as safe by the United States Food and Drug  
40 Administration (FDA).
- 41 (5) Hemp product. – As defined in G.S. 90-87.
- 42 (6) Ingestion. – The process of consuming through the mouth, by swallowing into  
43 the gastrointestinal system or through tissue absorption.
- 44 (7) Inhalation. – The process of consuming into the respiratory system through  
45 the mouth or nasal passages.
- 46 (8) Prohibited finished hemp-derived consumable product. – A final-form  
47 consumable product intended for human ingestion or inhalation that contains:  
48 (i) more than four-tenths of one milligram (0.4 mg) of total  
49 tetrahydrocannabinol per container, measured as the innermost packaging in  
50 direct contact with the product offered for retail sale, or (ii) any synthetic or  
51 chemically converted cannabinoid.

1       **(b) Prohibition.** – Both of the following are unlawful:

- 2           **(1)** For any person to knowingly sell or deliver a hemp-derived consumable  
3 product to a person who is under 21 years of age. A person engaged in the sale  
4 of hemp-derived consumable products shall demand proof of age from a  
5 prospective purchaser if the person has reasonable grounds to believe that the  
6 prospective purchaser is under 21 years of age.  
7           **(2)** For any person who is under 21 years of age to possess a hemp-derived  
8 consumable product.

9       **(c) Punishment.** – Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 2  
10 misdemeanor.

11       **(d) Civil Penalties.** – In addition to any criminal penalty authorized by law, a person that  
12 violates subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section shall be subject to the following civil  
13 penalties:

- 14           **(1)** Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, a violation shall have  
15 the following civil penalties:  
16           **a.** For a first violation, a civil penalty of two thousand five hundred  
17 dollars (\$2,500).  
18           **b.** For a second violation within three years of the first violation, a civil  
19 penalty of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).  
20           **c.** For a third violation within three years of the first violation, a civil  
21 penalty of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).  
22           **d.** For a fourth or subsequent violation within three years of the first  
23 violation, a civil penalty of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).  
24           **(2)** A violation by the sale or delivery of a prohibited finished hemp-derived  
25 consumable product shall have the following civil penalties:  
26           **a.** For a first violation, a civil penalty of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).  
27           **b.** For a second violation within three years of the first violation, a civil  
28 penalty of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).  
29           **c.** For a third or subsequent violation within three years of the first  
30 violation, a civil penalty of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

31       **(e)** Each violation of this section constitutes a separate violation.

32       **(f) Liability of Retail Establishments.** – A retail establishment is responsible for  
33 violations committed by its owners, officers, managers, employees, or agents acting within the  
34 scope of their employment.

35       **(g)** The Attorney General or the district attorney for the prosecutorial district in which  
36 the violation occurred may bring a civil action in the General Court of Justice to recover the civil  
37 penalties authorized by this section.

38       **(h) Construction.** – Nothing in this section shall be construed as altering any provisions  
39 of Article 5 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes (North Carolina Controlled Substances Act) or  
40 otherwise in any way authorizing the sale, delivery, or possession of any hemp, hemp product,  
41 or hemp-derived consumable product that is not otherwise authorized by State or federal law."

42       **SECTION 2.(b)** This section becomes effective July 15, 2026, and applies to  
43 offenses committed on or after that date.

44  
45 **TECHNICAL CORRECTION – REPEAL OBSOLETE HEMP EXTRACT STATUTE**

46       **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 90-94.1 is repealed.

47       **SECTION 3.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to  
48 offenses committed on or after that date.

49  
50 **UPDATE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT**

51       **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 90-89 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 90-89. Schedule I controlled substances.**

2 This schedule includes the controlled substances listed or to be listed by whatever official  
3 name, common or usual name, chemical name, or trade name designated. In determining that a  
4 substance comes within this schedule, the Commission shall find: a high potential for abuse, no  
5 currently accepted medical use in the United States, or a lack of accepted safety for use in  
6 treatment under medical supervision. The following controlled substances are included in this  
7 schedule:

- 8 (1) Opiates. – Any of the following opiates or opioids, including the isomers,  
9 esters, ethers, salts and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers, unless specifically  
10 excepted, or listed in another schedule, whenever the existence of such  
11 isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical  
12 designation:

13 a. Acetyl-alpha-methylfentanyl  
14 (N[1-(1-methyl-2-phenethyl)-4/y-piperidinyl]-N-phenylacet amide).

15 ...

16 sss. AP-237.

17 ttt. 2-methyl AP-237.

18 uuu. (ortho, meta, or para)-methyl AP-237.

19 vvv. AP-238.

20 www. (ortho, meta, or para)-hydroxy 2-methyl AP-237.

21 xxx. 2-Naphthyl U-47700.

22 yyy. 1-Naphthyl U-47700.

23 zzz. 4-(Trifluoromethyl) U-47700.

24 aaaa. Methoxy U-47700.

25 bbbb. Furanyl UF-17.

26 cccc. Cyclopropyl U-47700.

27 dddd. Phenyl U-47700.

28 eeee. Ethyl U-47700.

29 ffff. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro-N,N-didesmethyl U-47700.

30 gggg. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro U-49900.

31 hhhh. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro-N-desmethyl U-47700.

32 iiii. 4-fluoro U-47931E.

33 jjjj. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro U-51754.

34 kkkk. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro Isopropyl U-47700.

35 llll. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro Propyl U-47700.

36 mmmm. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro U-50488.

37 nnnn. (2,3- or 3,4)-difluoro U-48800.

38 oooo. (2,3- or 3,4 or 2,4)-difluoro U-47700.

39 pppp. UF-17.

40 qqqq. U-47109.

41 rrrr. U-48520.

42 ssss. N,N-didesmethyl U-47700.

43 tttt. U-62066.

44 uuuu. Propyl U-47700.

45 vvvv. (2,3- or 3,4)-Ethylenedioxy U-51754.

46 wwww. 4-phenyl U-51754.

47 xxxx. N-desmethyl U-47700.

48 yyyy. (2,3- or 3,4)-Ethylenedioxy U-47700.

49 zzzz. N-methyl U-47931E.

50 aaaaa. (2,3- or 3,4)-Methylenedioxy U-47700.

51 bbbbb. U-69593.

- 1            cccc. U-50488.  
2            dddd. U-48753E.  
3            eeee. U-47931E.  
4            ffff. Spirochlorphine.
- (1a) Fentanyl derivatives. – Unless specifically excepted, listed in another schedule, or contained within a pharmaceutical product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, any compound structurally derived from N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-N-phenylpropanamide (Fentanyl) by any substitution on or replacement of the phenethyl group, any substitution on the piperidine ring, any substitution on or replacement of the propanamide group, any substitution on the anilido phenyl group, or any combination of the above unless specifically excepted or listed in another schedule to include their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers. Fentanyl derivatives include, but are not limited to, the following:
- 15            ...  
16            f.            N-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-propanamide ~~(also known as 2-fluorofentanyl)~~(also known as ortho-fluorofentanyl).  
17  
18  
19  
20            g.            N-(3-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-propanamide ~~(also known as 3-fluorofentanyl)~~(also known as meta-fluorofentanyl).  
21  
22  
23  
24            h.            N-(1-phenethylpiperidin-4-yl)-N-phenyltetrahydrofuran-2-carboxamide (also known as tetrahydrofuran fentanyl).  
25  
26  
27            i.            N-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-propanamide ~~(also known as 4-fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl, 4-FIBF)~~(also known as 4-fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl).  
28  
29  
30  
31            j.            N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-butanamide ~~(also known as 4-fluorobutyryl fentanyl, 4-FBF)~~(also known as 4-fluorobutyryl fentanyl).  
32  
33
- (1b) Nitazene derivatives. – The N-substituted benzimidazole structural class, including any of the following derivatives, their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers unless specifically utilized as part of the manufacturing process by a commercial industry of a substance or material not intended for human ingestion or consumption, as a prescription administered under medical supervision, or for research at a recognized institution, whenever the existence of these salts, isomers, or salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation or unless specifically excepted or listed in this or another schedule, structurally derived from benzimidazole by substitution at the 1-position nitrogen with an ethylamine group, and by substitution at the 2-position carbon with a benzyl group, whether or not the compound is further modified in any of the following ways:
- 46            a.            By monoalkyl or dialkyl substitution on the 1'-nitrogen of the 1-position ethylamine group, or by inclusion of the nitrogen in a cyclic structure;  
47  
48  
49            b.            By substitution on the 2'-methylene carbon of the benzyl group by alkyl or carboxamide groups;  
50

- 1 c. By replacement of the 2'-methylene carbon group with an ethylbenzyl,  
2 thiophenol, or methoxybenzene group, which may be further  
3 substituted with alkyl, hydroxyl, alkoxy, acetoxy, halide, or sulfide  
4 groups;  
5 d. By substitution at the 2'-position, 3'-position, or 4'-position of the  
6 benzyl group, or both, with alkyl, hydroxyl, alkoxy, acetoxy, halide,  
7 or sulfide groups; and  
8 e. By replacement of a phenyl hydrogen atom at either the 5-position or  
9 6-position of the benzimidazole core with a nitro, or primary amine  
10 group.
- 11 (1c) Orphine derivatives. – Unless specifically excepted, listed in another  
12 schedule, or contained within a pharmaceutical product approved by the  
13 United States Food and Drug Administration, any compound structurally  
14 derived from  
15 1,3-dihydro-1-[1-(1-phenethyl)-4-piperidinyl]-2H-benzimidazol-2-one  
16 (Orphine) by any substitution on the benzimidazolone core, any substitution  
17 on the piperidine ring, any substitution on or replacement of the N-benzyl  
18 group, any substitution on or replacement of the methyl group at the benzyl  
19 location, or any combination of the above unless specifically excepted or  
20 listed in another schedule to include their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers.  
21 Orphine derivatives include, but are not limited to, the following:  
22 a.  
23 1-[1-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-4-piperidinyl]-1,3-dihydro-2H-be  
24 nzimidazol-2-one (also known as Chlorphine).  
25 b.  
26 1-[1-[1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-4-piperidinyl]-5,6-dichloro-1,3-di  
27 hydro-2H-benzimidazol-2-one (also known as 5,6-dichloro  
28 Brorphine).  
29 c.  
30 5,6-dichloro-1-[1-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]-1,3-di  
31 hydro-2H-benzimidazol-2-one (also known as 5,6-dichloro  
32 Desmethylchlorphine).  
33 ...  
34 (3) Hallucinogenic substances. – Any material, compound, mixture, or  
35 preparation which contains any quantity of the following hallucinogenic  
36 substances, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, unless  
37 specifically excepted, or listed in another schedule, whenever the existence of  
38 such salts, isomers (whether optical, positional, or geometric), and salts of  
39 isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:  
40 ...  
41 v. 4-bromo-2, 5-dimethoxyamphetamine.  
42 w. 4-methoxyamphetamine.  
43 x. Ethylamine analog of phencyclidine. Some trade or other names:  
44 N-ethyl-1-phenylcyclohexylamine, (1-phenylcyclohexyl) ethylamine,  
45 N-(1-phenylcyclohexyl) ethylamine, cyclohexamine, PCE.  
46 y. Pyrrolidine analog of phencyclidine. Some trade or other names:  
47 1-(1-phenylcyclohexyl)-pyrrolidine, PCPy, PHP, PCPy.  
48 ...  
49 mm. 5-methoxy-N-methyl-N-propyltryptamine  
50 (5-MeO-MiPT).5-methoxy-N-methyl-N-isopropyltryptamine  
51 (5-MeO-MiPT).

- 1 ...
- 2 oo. Substituted phenylcyclohexylamines. – Any compound, unless
- 3 specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, or contained
- 4 within a pharmaceutical product approved by the United States Food
- 5 and Drug Administration, any material, compound, mixture, or
- 6 preparation containing a phenylcyclohexylamine structure, with or
- 7 without any substitution on the phenyl ring, any substitution on the
- 8 cyclohexyl ring, any replacement of the phenyl ring with a thiophenyl
- 9 or benzothiophenyl ring, with or without substitution on the amine
- 10 with alkyl, dialkyl, or alkoxy substituents, inclusion of the nitrogen in
- 11 a cyclic structure, or any combination of the above. Substances in this
- 12 class include, but are not limited to: ~~BCP (benzocyclidine)~~, PCMPA
- 13 ((phenylcyclohexyl(methoxypropylamine)), and Hydroxy-PCP
- 14 ((hydroxyphenyl)cyclohexylpiperidine).
- 15 (4) Systemic depressants. – Any material compound, mixture, or preparation
- 16 which contains any quantity of the following substances having a depressant
- 17 effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of
- 18 isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is
- 19 possible within the specific chemical designation, unless specifically excepted
- 20 or unless listed in another schedule:
- 21 ...
- 22 j. Bromazolam.
- 23 (5) Stimulants. – Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule,
- 24 any material, compound, mixture, or preparation that contains any quantity of
- 25 the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous
- 26 system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers:
- 27 ...
- 28 j. Substituted cathinones. A compound, other than bupropion, that is
- 29 structurally derived from 2-amino-1-phenyl-1-propanone by
- 30 modification in any of the following ways: (i) by substitution in the
- 31 phenyl ring to any extent with alkyl, alkoxy, alkylendioxy, haloalkyl,
- 32 or halide substituents, whether or not further substituted in the phenyl
- 33 ring by one or more other univalent substituents; (ii) by substitution at
- 34 the 3-position to any extent; or (iii) by substitution at the nitrogen atom
- 35 with alkyl, dialkyl, benzyl, cycloalkyl, or methoxybenzyl groups or by
- 36 inclusion of the nitrogen atom in a cyclic structure. For the purpose of
- 37 this paragraph, the term "isomer" includes the optical, positional, or
- 38 geometric isomer.
- 39 ...
- 40 (7) Synthetic cannabinoids. – Any quantity of any synthetic chemical compound
- 41 that (i) is a cannabinoid receptor agonist and mimics the pharmacological
- 42 effect of naturally occurring substances or (ii) has a stimulant, depressant, or
- 43 hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is not listed as a
- 44 controlled substance in Schedules I through V, and is not an FDA-approved
- 45 drug. Synthetic cannabinoids include, but are not limited to, the substances
- 46 listed in sub-subdivisions a. through ~~p-v.~~ of this subdivision and any substance
- 47 that contains any quantity of their salts, isomers (whether optical, positional,
- 48 or geometric), homologues, and salts of isomers and homologues, unless
- 49 specifically excepted, whenever the existence of these salts, isomers,
- 50 homologues, and salts of isomers and homologues is possible within the
- 51 specific chemical designation. The following substances are examples of

- 1 synthetic cannabinoids and are not intended to be inclusive of the substances  
2 included in this Schedule:  
3 ...
- 4 l. Indole carboxamides. Any compound structurally derived from  
5 1H-indole-3-carboxamide or 1H-indole-2-carboxamide substituted in  
6 one or both of the following ways:  
7 1. At the nitrogen atom of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl,  
8 cyanoalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl,  
9 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl,  
10 1-(N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)methyl,  
11 1-(N-methyl-3-morpholinyl)methyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl,  
12 benzyl, or halo benzyl group; ~~and~~  
13 2. At the nitrogen of the carboxamide by a phenyl, benzyl,  
14 naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl, ~~or~~ propionaldehyde  
15 group; group, or methyl 3,3-dimethyl-butanoate group;  
16 whether or not the compound is further modified to any extent in the  
17 following ways: (i) substitution to the indole ring to any extent, (ii)  
18 substitution to the phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl,  
19 or propionaldehyde group to any extent, (iii) a nitrogen heterocyclic  
20 analog of the indole ring, or (iv) a nitrogen heterocyclic analog of the  
21 phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, or cyclopropyl ring. Substances  
22 in this class include, but are not limited to: SDB-001 and  
23 STS-135, STS-135 and MDMB-ICA.  
24 ...
- 25 n. Indazole carboxaldehydes. Any compound structurally derived from  
26 1H-indazole-3-carboxaldehyde or 1H-indazole-2-carboxaldehyde  
27 substituted in both of the following ways:  
28 1. At the nitrogen atom of the indazole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl,  
29 cyanoalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl,  
30 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl,  
31 1-(N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)methyl,  
32 1-(N-methyl-3-morpholinyl)methyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl,  
33 benzyl, or halo benzyl group; and  
34 2. At the carbon of the carboxaldehyde by a phenyl, benzyl,  
35 naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl, or propionaldehyde group;  
36 whether or not the compound is further modified to any extent in the  
37 following ways: (i) substitution to the indazole ring to any extent, (ii)  
38 substitution to the phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl,  
39 or propionaldehyde group to any extent, (iii) a nitrogen heterocyclic  
40 analog of the indazole ring, or (iv) a nitrogen heterocyclic analog of  
41 the phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, or cyclopropyl ring.
- 42 o. Indazole carboxamides. Any compound structurally derived from  
43 1H-indazole-3-carboxamide or 1H-indazole-2-carboxamide  
44 substituted in one or both of the following ways:  
45 1. At the nitrogen atom of the indazole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl,  
46 cyanoalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl,  
47 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl,  
48 1-(N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)methyl,  
49 1-(N-methyl-3-morpholinyl)methyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl,  
50 benzyl, or halo benzyl group; ~~and~~



- u. Indazole acetaldehydes. Any compound structurally derived from 1H-indazol-3-ylacetaldehyde or 1H-indazol-2-ylacetaldehyde substituted in one or both of the following ways:
  - 1. At the nitrogen atom of the indazole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, cyanoalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-piperidinyl)methyl, 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl, 1-(N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)methyl, 1-(N-methyl-3-morpholinyl)methyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl, benzyl, or halo benzyl group;
  - 2. At the nitrogen of the carboxamide by a phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl, or propionaldehyde group; whether or not the compound is further modified to any extent in the following ways: (i) substitution to the indazole ring to any extent, (ii) substitution to the phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, cyclopropyl, or propionaldehyde group to any extent, (iii) a nitrogen heterocyclic analog of the indazole ring, or (iv) a nitrogen heterocyclic analog of the phenyl, benzyl, naphthyl, adamantyl, or cyclopropyl ring. Substances in this class include, but are not limited to, ADB-BUTINAATA, ADB-FUBINAATA.
- v. Pyrazoles. Any compound structurally derived from 1H-pyrazole substituted in all of the following ways:
  - 1. At the 1 position of the pyrazole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, or alkenyl group; and
  - 2. At the 3 position of the pyrazole ring by a halo benzyl or propionaldehyde group; and
  - 3. At the 5 position of the pyrazole ring by a halo benzyl or propionaldehyde group; whether or not the compound is further modified by a substitution to the propionaldehyde group to any extent. Substances in this class include, but are not limited to, 3,5-ADB-4en-PFUPPYCA, 5-fluoro-3,5-AB-PFUPPYCA."

**SECTION 4.(b)** G.S. 90-90(2)h1. reads as rewritten:

"h1. Fentanyl immediate precursor chemical, 4-anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine (ANPP).4-anilino-N-phenethylpiperdine (ANPP)."

**SECTION 4.(c)** G.S. 90-91(k) reads as rewritten:

"(k) Anabolic steroids. The term "anabolic steroid" means any drug or hormonal substance, chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone (other than estrogens, progestins, and corticosteroids) that promotes muscle growth, including, but not limited to, the following:

- ...
- 11. ~~Dehydrochlormethyltestosterone~~,Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone,
- ...
- 16. ~~Mesterolene~~,Mesterolone,
- ...."

**SECTION 4.(d)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2026, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

**REGULATE KRATOM PRODUCTS**

1           **SECTION 5.(a)** Article 52 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by  
2 adding a new section to read:

3 **"§ 14-401.28. Possession and sale of certain kratom products prohibited.**

4       **(a) Definitions.** – For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

5           **(1) Kratom.** – Any quantity of mitragynine or 7-hydroxymitragynine or both,  
6 extracted from the leaf of the plant *Mitragyna speciosa*.

7           **(2) Kratom product.** – A final-form consumable product intended for human  
8 ingestion or inhalation that contains any amount of kratom.

9           **(3) Synthetic kratom product.** – An alkaloid, metabolite, or alkaloid derivative  
10 that has been created by chemical synthesis or biosynthetic means that  
11 synthetically alters the composition of any kratom alkaloid or constituent,  
12 including, but not limited to, synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine.

13       **(b) Prohibition.** – All of the following are unlawful:

14           **(1)** For any person to knowingly sell or deliver a synthetic kratom product to any  
15 other person.

16           **(2)** For any person to knowingly possess a synthetic kratom product.

17           **(3)** For any person to knowingly sell or deliver a kratom product to a person who  
18 is under 21 years of age. A person engaged in the sale of kratom products shall  
19 demand proof of age from a prospective purchaser if the person has reasonable  
20 grounds to believe that the prospective purchaser is under 21 years of age.

21           **(4)** For any person who is under 21 years of age to possess a kratom product.

22       **(c) Punishment.** – Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 2  
23 misdemeanor.

24       **(d) Construction.** – Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the sale,  
25 delivery, or possession of any kratom, kratom product, or synthetic kratom product that is not  
26 otherwise authorized by State or federal law."

27       **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 7A-304(a) reads as rewritten:

28       "(a) In every criminal case in the superior or district court, wherein the defendant is  
29 convicted, or enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or when costs are assessed against the  
30 prosecuting witness, the following costs shall be assessed and collected. No costs may be  
31 assessed when a case is dismissed. Only upon entry of a written order, supported by findings of  
32 fact and conclusions of law, determining that there is just cause, the court may (i) waive costs  
33 assessed under this section or (ii) waive or reduce costs assessed under subdivision (7), (8), (8a),  
34 (11), (12), or (13) of this section. No court may waive or remit all or part of any court fines or  
35 costs without providing notice and opportunity to be heard by all government entities directly  
36 affected. The court shall provide notice to the government entities directly affected of (i) the date  
37 and time of the hearing and (ii) the right to be heard and make an objection to the remission or  
38 waiver of all or part of the order of court costs at least 15 days prior to hearing. Notice shall be  
39 made to the government entities affected by first-class mail to the address provided for receipt of  
40 court costs paid pursuant to the order. The costs referenced in this subsection are listed below:

41       ...

42       **(7)** For the services of the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory facilities, the  
43 district or superior court judge shall, upon conviction, order payment of the  
44 sum of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) to be remitted to the Department of  
45 Justice for support of the Laboratory. This cost shall be assessed only in cases  
46 in which, as part of the investigation leading to the defendant's conviction, the  
47 laboratories have performed DNA analysis of the crime, tests of bodily fluids  
48 of the defendant for the presence of alcohol or controlled substances, or  
49 analysis of any controlled ~~substance~~-substance, or any kratom product or  
50 synthetic kratom product as defined in G.S. 14-401.28, possessed by the  
51 defendant or the defendant's agent.

1 (8) For the services of any crime laboratory facility, the district or superior court  
 2 judge shall, upon conviction, order payment of the sum of six hundred dollars  
 3 (\$600.00) to be remitted to the general fund of the local governmental unit  
 4 that operates the laboratory or paid for the laboratory services. The funds shall  
 5 be used for law enforcement purposes. The cost shall be assessed only in cases  
 6 in which, as part of the investigation leading to the defendant's conviction, the  
 7 laboratory has performed DNA analysis of the crime, test of bodily fluids of  
 8 the defendant for the presence of alcohol or controlled substances, or analysis  
 9 of any controlled ~~substance~~ substance, or any kratom product or synthetic  
 10 kratom product as defined in G.S. 14-401.28, possessed by the defendant or  
 11 the defendant's agent. The costs shall be assessed only if the court finds that  
 12 the work performed at the laboratory is the equivalent of the same kind of  
 13 work performed by the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory under  
 14 subdivision (7) of this subsection.

15 ...."

16 **SECTION 5.(c)** This section becomes effective July 15, 2026, and applies to  
 17 offenses committed on or after that date.

18  
 19 **ADD XYLAZINE AS A SCHEDULE III CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE**

20 **SECTION 6.(a)** G.S. 90-91(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:  
 21 "13. Xylazine."

22 **SECTION 6.(b)** This section becomes effective December 1, 2026, and applies to  
 23 offenses committed on or after that date.

24  
 25 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

26 **SECTION 7.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
 27 law.