



# SENATE BILL 207: Litter Law/Rebuttable Presumption.

2025-2026 General Assembly

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| <b>Committee:</b>     | Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate | <b>Date:</b>        | May 1, 2025      |
| <b>Introduced by:</b> | Sens. McInnis, Jarvis, Daniel             | <b>Prepared by:</b> | Michael Johnston |
| <b>Analysis of:</b>   | Second Edition                            |                     | Staff Attorney   |

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 207 would create a rebuttable presumption that a person committed the infraction of littering if the litter includes documents or objects that clearly bear the name of the person.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 14-399 establishes the offense of littering, which is generally the act of disposing of garbage on public or private property where the person is not authorized to dispose of garbage. Penalties for the offense of intentional littering pursuant to G.S. 14-399(a) can range from a Class 3 misdemeanor to a Class I felony, while the penalty for unintentional littering pursuant to G.S. 14-399(a1) is an infraction. Additionally, the penalties for littering can include a fine and community service.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 207 would create a permissive rebuttable presumption that a person committed the infraction of littering under G.S. 14-399(a1) if the litter includes documents or objects clearly bearing the person's name, including bank statements, utility bills, bank card bills, medical bills, prescription bottles, and other financial or medical documents or objects. However, advertising, marketing, and campaign materials and literature would not create a rebuttable presumption under this subsection.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill would become effective December 1, 2025, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

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