



SENATE BILL 375: Harrison's Law.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	May 6, 2025
Introduced by:	Sens. Galey, Barnes, Overcash	Prepared by:	Robert Ryan
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 375 would modify the offense of hazing as follows:*

- *The offense of hazing committed by a student would be raised from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class A1 misdemeanor.*
- *A new offense prohibiting hazing by school personnel would be created and would be punished as a Class I felony.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 14-35, Hazing; definition and punishment, provides the following: "It is unlawful for any student in attendance at any university, college, or school in this State to engage in hazing, or to aid or abet any other student in the commission of this offense. For the purposes of this section hazing is defined as follows: "to subject another student to physical injury as part of an initiation, or as a prerequisite to membership, into any organized school group, including any society, athletic team, fraternity or sorority, or other similar group." Any violation of this section shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor."

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 375 would modify the above hazing offense. Specifically, the bill would do the following:

- The offense of hazing committed by a student would be raised from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class A1 misdemeanor.
- A new offense prohibiting hazing by school personnel would be created and would be punished as a Class I felony. School personnel would include teachers, school administrators, and coaches.

The bill would maintain the definition of "hazing" as provided in current law, with technical and conforming changes made.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, this act would be effective when it becomes law.

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