

## **HOUSE BILL 597: Mediated Settlement Agreements**

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee: Date:

Introduced by: Prepared by: Bill Patterson
Analysis of: S.L. 2015-57 Staff Attorney

SUMMARY: S.L. 2015-57 requires mediated settlement agreements to be signed by the parties against whom enforcement is sought in order to be enforceable.

This act became effective July 1, 2015, and applies to agreements entered into on or after that date.

## **CURRENT LAW:**

G.S. 7A-38.1, G.S. 7A-38.3B, G.S. 7A-38.3D, G.S. 7A-38.4A, and G.S. 8-110, apply to mediations in superior court civil actions, matters within the jurisdiction of the clerk of superior court or the district criminal courts, actions involving equitable distribution, alimony, or support in district court, and mediations at a community mediation center.

These sections currently provide that a mediated settlement agreement must be signed "by the parties."

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The act amends these statutes to provide that the agreements must be signed "by the parties against whom enforcement is sought," rather than "by the parties."

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act became effective July 1, 2015, and applies to agreements entered into on or after that date.

\* Staff Attorney Tawanda Foster substantially contributed to this summary.



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