

HOUSE BILL 224: Assault w/ Firearm on LEO/Increase **Punishment.**

2019-2020 General Assembly

House Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Date: **Committee:** March 6, 2019 Calendar, and Operations of the House **Introduced by:** Reps. Moore, Hastings, C. Smith, Barnes **Prepared by:** Shawn Middlebrooks First Edition Analysis of: Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 224 would amend G.S. 14-34.5(a) to make it a Class D felony to commit an assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer, probation officer, or parole officer.

CURRENT LAW AND ANALYSIS: G.S. 14-34.5(a) provides that a person who commits an assault with a firearm on a law enforcement officer, probation officer, or parole officer in the performance of an official duty is guilty of a Class E felony (15 to 88 months incarceration).

House Bill 224 would amend G.S. 14-34.5(a) to make it a Class D felony (38-204 month incarceration) for violating this subsection. A Class D felony mandates an active term of imprisonment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective December 1, 2019 and apply to offenses committed on or after that date. A person who commits an offense under G.S. 14-34.5(a) prior to the effective date in this bill would be sentenced as a Class E felon.

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