



# HOUSE BILL 617: Allow Repeat Referral to Teen Court.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	July 22, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>		<b>Prepared by:</b>	Tawanda F. Artis
<b>Analysis of:</b>	S.L. 2019-41		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *S.L. 2019-41 allows a juvenile to be referred to a teen court program more than once by removing the prohibition on referring a juvenile to a teen court program if the juvenile has been referred to a teen court program previously.*

*This act became effective on June 21, 2019.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 7B-1706(c) provides the circumstances under which a juvenile court counselor may refer a juvenile to a teen court program. A juvenile court counselor may refer a juvenile to a teen court program in cases where the juvenile is alleged to have committed an offense that would be an infraction or misdemeanor (with limited exceptions) if committed by an adult.

Under current law, a juvenile court counselor may not refer a juvenile to a teen court program if the juvenile has 1) been referred to a teen court program previously, or 2) is alleged to have committed any of the following offenses:

- Driving while impaired;
- A Class A1 misdemeanor;
- An assault in which a weapon is used; or
- A controlled substance offense under the NC Controlled Substances Act other than a simple possession of a Schedule VI drug or alcohol.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** This act allows a juvenile to be referred to a teen court program more than once by removing the prohibition on referring a juvenile to a teen court program if the juvenile has been referred to a teen court program previously.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act became effective on June 21, 2019.

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Director



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