



# SENATE BILL 395: Good-Cause Continuances.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b> Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b> April 18, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b> Sen. Daniel	<b>Prepared by:</b> Shawn Middlebrooks
<b>Analysis of:</b> Second Edition	Staff Attorney*

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 395 would amend the rules of Civil Procedure and the Criminal Procedure Act by expanding instances that constitute good cause.*

## CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS:

Currently, the rules of Civil Procedure and the Criminal Procedure Act allow a continuance to be granted for good cause. Good cause is currently defined to include when a party to a proceeding, a witness, or counsel of record has an obligation of service to the State of North Carolina, including service as a member of the General Assembly or the Rules Review Commission.

**Senate Bill 395** would:

- Clarify that good cause includes any service carrying out any duties as a member of the General Assembly.
- Expand good cause to also include service on any other board, commission, or authority as an appointee of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or the General Assembly.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective December 1, 2019.

\* *Staff Attorney Amy Darden substantially contributed to this summary.*

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