



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

# HOUSE BILL 743: Remove ID Mark/Increase Punishment.

2021-2022 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 3, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. C. Smith, Miller	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jennifer H. Bedford
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Third Edition		Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** House Bill 743 would make the alteration or destruction of an identifying number from personal property or certain machinery a Class H felony if the value of the item was greater than \$1,000.

### CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 743 would make changes to the punishment for destroying identifying numbers on property or machinery similar to the punishment for the crime of larceny which provides a Class 1 misdemeanor for the theft of goods with a value of \$1,000 or less, and a Class H felony for the theft of goods with a value greater than \$1,000.

**G.S. 14-160.1** currently makes the alteration, destruction, or removal of a serial number from any item of personal property, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

**Section 1** of the bill would amend G.S. 14-160.1 to create a Class H felony for altering, destroying, or removing the serial number of personal property with a value greater than \$1,000.

**G.S. 14-401.4** currently makes the willful removal, destruction, or alteration of an identifying number on a machine or other apparatus, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

**Section 2** of the bill would amend G.S. 14-401.4 to create a Class H felony for the willful removal, destruction, or alteration of an identifying number on a machine or other apparatus with a value greater than \$1,000.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act becomes effective December 1, 2021, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

### BACKGROUND:

A Class 1 misdemeanor is punishable from a minimum of 1 day community punishment to a maximum 120 day active sentence.

A Class H felony is punishable from a minimum of 4 months community punishment to a maximum of 39 month active sentence.

\*Staff Attorney Robert Ryan contributed substantially to this summary.

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