



HOUSE BILL 743: Remove ID Mark and Increase Punishment.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	February 28, 2022
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Jennifer H. Bedford
Analysis of:	S.L. 2021-36		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2021-36 makes 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.*

This act became effective December 1, 2021, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

S.L. 2021-36 changes 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 previously made the alteration, destruction, or removal of a serial number from any item of personal property, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The act amends 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 previously made the willful removal, destruction, or alteration of an identifying number on a machine or other apparatus, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The act also amends 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 became 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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