



2021-2022 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 605: North Carolina Farm Act of 2021, Sec. 2: Allow Magistrates to Waive Trials for State Forest Rule Offenses

Committee:		Date:	February 7, 2022
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Chris Saunders Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Sec. 2 of S.L. 2021-78		

OVERVIEW: Section 2 of S.L. 2021-78 allows magistrates to accept waivers of trial or hearing for misdemeanor or infraction cases involving State forest rule offenses. The State forest rules include regulations on bathing and swimming, horses, bicycle trails, hunting, and camping, as well as certain criminal laws. Other waivable offenses under current law include hunting, fishing, State park and recreation area rule offenses, open burning offenses, traffic offenses, and boating offenses.

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

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 2 of S.L. 2021-78 allows magistrates to accept waivers of trial or hearing for misdemeanor or infraction cases involving State forest rule offenses. The State forest rules include regulations on bathing and swimming, horses, bicycle trails, hunting, and camping, as well as certain criminal laws. Other waivable offenses under current law include hunting, fishing, State park and recreation area rule offenses, open burning offenses, traffic offenses, and boating offenses.

BACKGROUND: Under prior law, magistrates could accept waivers of trial in misdemeanor or infraction cases involving alcohol offenses; traffic offenses; hunting, fishing, State park and recreation area rule offenses; boating offenses; open burning offenses; and littering offenses, among other offenses.

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

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578