

HOUSE BILL 903: Add Tianeptine to Controlled Substance List.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Judiciary 2. If favorable, re-refer to Date: June 12, 2024

Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

Introduced by: Reps. Ross, Sossamon, Paré, White **Prepared by:** Susan Sitze

Analysis of: First Edition Michael Johnston

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OVERVIEW: House Bill 903 would make tianeptine a Schedule II controlled substance.

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

Tianeptine is an atypical antidepressant drug that has effects similar to opioids. Tianeptine is currently unregulated in North Carolina, and it has been referred to as "gas station heroin."

House Bill 903 would add tianeptine to the list of Schedule II controlled substances in G.S. 90-90. Pursuant to G.S. 90-95, the sale of tianeptine would generally be punishable as a Class G felony, the manufacture, delivery, and possession with intent to manufacture, sell, or deliver tianeptine would generally be punishable as a Class H felony, and simple possession of tianeptine would generally be punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

EFFECTIVE DATE: House Bill 903 would become effective September 1, 2024, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

BACKGROUND: On April 16, 2024, the House Select Committee on Substance Abuse submitted a <u>report</u> recommending that the General Assembly enact legislation scheduling tianeptine as a Schedule II controlled substance in North Carolina.

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