



2025-2026 General Assembly

HOUSE BILL 377: 2026 Court Changes, Sec. 9: Allow Office of Indigent Defense Services Attorneys Electronic Access to Files

Analysis of: House Bill 377 (Ratified), Sec. 9

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Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
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Section 9 of House Bill 377 would have modified G.S. 7A-452 which provides that when an indigent person has entered notice of appeal and appellate counsel has been appointed by the Office of Indigent Defense Services (IDS), the clerk of superior court is required to make a copy of the complete trial division file for the IDS counsel. This law would have been modified to clarify that clerks may electronically provide this file access to IDS counsel.

House Bill 377 was ratified by the General Assembly on August 6, 2026, but was vetoed by the Governor on August 17, 2026, and is not current law. If the General Assembly overrides the veto, Section 9 of House Bill 377 would become effective October 1, 2026.

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