

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE BILL 348
Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 4/19/99
House Committee Substitute Favorable 7/14/99

Short Title: Stop Misuse of Laser Pointers.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 15, 1999

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE MISUSE OF LASER DEVICES.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 Section 1. Article 8 of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by
5 adding a new section to read:

6 "**§ 14-34.8. Criminal use of laser device.**

7 (a) For purposes of this section, the term 'laser' means light amplification by
8 stimulated emission of radiation.

9 (b) It is unlawful intentionally to point a laser device at a law enforcement officer,
10 or at the head or face of another person, while the device is emitting a laser beam.

11 (c) A violation of this section is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

12 (d) This section does not apply to a law enforcement officer who uses a laser
13 device in discharging or attempting to discharge the officer's official duties. This section
14 does not apply to a health care professional who uses a laser device in providing services
15 within the scope of practice of that professional nor to any other person who is licensed
16 or authorized by law to use a laser device and uses it in the performance of the person's
17 official duties.

1 (e) This section does not apply to laser tag and similar games and devices using
2 light emitting diode (LED) technology."

3 Section 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 1999, and applies to
4 offenses committed on or after that date.