

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 534

Short Title: Protecting School Employees. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives N. Jackson, Carson Smith, Stevens, and Biggs (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Judiciary 2, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 30, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR A PERSON WHO COMMITS A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE OF ASSAULTING A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE OR SCHOOL VOLUNTEER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-33 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-33. **Misdemeanor assaults, batteries, and affrays, simple and aggravated; punishments.**

...

(c) Unless the conduct is covered under some other provision of law providing greater punishment, any person who commits any assault, assault and battery, or affray is guilty of a Class A1 misdemeanor if, in the course of the assault, assault and battery, or affray, he or ~~she~~she does any of the following:

(1) Inflicts serious injury upon another person or uses a deadly ~~weapon~~weapon.

(2) Assaults a female, he being a male person at least 18 years of ~~age~~age.

(3) Assaults a child under the age of 12 ~~years~~years.

(4) Assaults an officer or employee of the State or any political subdivision of the State, when the officer or employee is discharging or attempting to discharge his official ~~duties~~duties.

...

(6) Assaults a school employee or school volunteer when the employee or volunteer is discharging or attempting to discharge his or her duties as an employee or volunteer, or assaults a school employee or school volunteer as a result of the discharge or attempt to discharge that individual's duties as a school employee or school volunteer. For purposes of this subdivision, the following definitions shall apply:

a. "Duties" means:

1. All activities on school property;

2. All activities, wherever occurring, during a school authorized event or the accompanying of students to or from that event; and

3. All activities relating to the operation of school transportation.

b. "Employee" or "volunteer" means:



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