

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 138  
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/6/19

Short Title: Damage Jail & Prison Fire Sprinkler/Penalty.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 25, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PUNISHMENT FOR WILLFULLY INTERFERING WITH,  
3 DAMAGING, DEFACING, MOLESTING, OR INJURING ANY PART OR PORTION OF  
4 A FIRE-ALARM, FIRE-DETECTION, SMOKE-DETECTION, OR  
5 FIRE-EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM IN A PRISON OR LOCAL CONFINEMENT  
6 FACILITY.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-286 reads as rewritten:

9 "**§ 14-286. Giving false fire alarms; molesting fire-alarm, fire-detection or**  
10 **fire-extinguishing system.**

11 (a) Offense. – It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to wantonly and willfully  
12 give or cause to be given, or to advise, counsel, or aid and abet anyone in giving, a false alarm of  
13 fire, or to break the glass key protector, or to pull the slide, arm, or lever of any station or signal  
14 box of any fire-alarm system, except in case of fire, or willfully misuse or damage a portable fire  
15 extinguisher, or in any way to willfully interfere with, damage, deface, molest, or injure any part  
16 or portion of any fire-alarm, fire-detection, smoke-detection or fire-extinguishing system.

17 (b) Penalty. – Any person who willfully interferes with, damages, defaces, molests, or  
18 injures any part or portion of a fire-alarm, fire-detection, smoke-detection, or fire-extinguishing  
19 system in a prison or local confinement facility is guilty of a Class H felony. Any person violating  
20 any of the provisions who commits any other violation of this section shall be is guilty of a Class  
21 2 misdemeanor. For purposes of this subsection, the term "local confinement facility" means a  
22 county or city jail, a local lockup, or a detention facility for adults operated by a local  
23 government."

24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2019, and applies to offenses  
25 committed on or after that date.



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