GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

H 1 **HOUSE BILL 902** Short Title: Amend Stalking Law. (Public) Sponsors: Representatives Morris; Adams, Alexander, Beall, Black, Bowie, Boyd-McIntyre, Clary, Daughtry, Davis, Esposito, Gardner, Gulley, Howard, Insko, Jeffus, Moore, Neely, Nichols, Rayfield, Sexton, Sherrill, Shubert, Starnes, Watson, and C. Wilson. Referred to: Judiciary I. April 9, 1997 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF STALKING. The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: Section 1. G.S. 14-277.3 reads as rewritten: "§ 14-277.3. Stalking. Offense. – A person commits the offense of stalking if the person willfully on

(a) Offense. – A person commits the offense of stalking if the person willfully on more than one occasion follows or is in the presence of another person without legal purpose: purpose and

1

2

3

4

5

6

7 8

9

10

11

1213

14

15

16

17

- (1) With with the intent to cause emotional distress by placing that person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury; injury.
- (2) After reasonable warning or request to desist by or on behalf of the other person; and
- (3) The acts constitute a pattern of conduct over a period of time evidencing a continuity of purpose.
- (b) Classification. A violation of this section is a <u>Class 2-Class 1</u> misdemeanor. A person who commits the offense of stalking when there is a court order in effect prohibiting similar behavior is guilty of a <u>Class 1-Class A1</u> misdemeanor. A second or

- subsequent conviction for stalking occurring within five years of a prior conviction of the same defendant is punishable as a Class I felony."
- Section 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 1997, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.