

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 990
Second Edition Engrossed 5/14/09
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/2/09

Short Title: Increase Penalty/Timber Theft.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 26, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR CUTTING, INJURING, OR
3 REMOVING ANOTHER'S TIMBER RESULTING IN DAMAGES THAT EXCEED
4 ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. G.S. 14-135 reads as rewritten:

7 "§ 14-135. **Cutting, injuring, or removing another's timber.**

8 (a) If any person not being the bona fide owner thereof, shall knowingly and willfully
9 cut down, injure or remove any standing, growing or fallen tree or ~~log, log off~~ the property of
10 another, ~~he the person~~ shall be guilty of a ~~Class 1 misdemeanor~~ criminal offense as follows:

11 (1) If the damage caused by a violation of this section is one thousand dollars
12 (\$1,000) or less, then the offense is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

13 (2) If the damage caused by a violation of this section is more than one thousand
14 dollars (\$1,000), then the offense is a Class I felony.

15 (b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to a lessee of property who removes a
16 fallen tree or log that poses an imminent threat to persons or property."

17 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective December 1, 2009, and applies to
18 offenses committed on or after that date.

