

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE BILL 517
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/18/07
Senate Judiciary I (Civil) Committee Substitute Adopted 6/4/08**

Short Title: Fleeing Accident Scene/Increase Penalty.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 7, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN
2 ACCIDENT WHERE A VICTIM HAS SUFFERED SERIOUS BODILY INJURY.
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 20-166(a) reads as rewritten:

6 "(a) The driver of any vehicle who knows or reasonably should know:

7 (1) That the vehicle which he or she is operating is involved in an accident
8 or collision; and

9 (2) That the accident or collision has resulted in injury or death to any
10 person;

11 shall immediately stop his or her vehicle at the scene of the accident or collision. The
12 driver shall remain with the vehicle at the scene of the accident until a law-enforcement
13 officer completes the investigation of the accident or collision or authorizes the driver to
14 leave and the vehicle to be removed, unless remaining at the scene places the driver or
15 others at significant risk of injury.

16 Prior to the completion of the investigation of the accident by a law enforcement
17 officer, or the consent of the officer to leave, the driver may not facilitate, allow, or
18 agree to the removal of the vehicle from the scene for any purpose other than to call for
19 a law enforcement officer, to call for medical assistance or medical treatment as set
20 forth in subsection (b) of this section, or to remove oneself or others from significant
21 risk of injury. If the driver does leave for a reason permitted by this subsection, then the
22 driver must return with the vehicle to the accident scene within a reasonable period of
23 time, unless otherwise instructed by a law enforcement officer. A willful violation of
24 this subsection shall be punished as (i) a Class H felony-felony, or (ii) a Class G felony
25 if any person suffers death or serious bodily injury. For the purposes of this subsection,
26 "serious bodily injury" is defined as set forth in G.S. 14-32.4(a)."

27 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2008, and applies to
28 offenses committed on or after that date.