GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 933

Committee Substitute Favorable 7/28/07 Senate Judiciary I (Civil) Committee Substitute Adopted 6/4/08

Short Title:	Jessica Lunsford Act for NC.	(Public)
Sponsors:		
Referred to:		

March 21, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN CRIMINAL OFFENSES OF RAPE OR 3 SEXUAL OFFENSE COMMITTED AGAINST A CHILD ARE PUNISHABLE 4 BY EITHER LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT PAROLE OR A MANDATORY 5 ACTIVE SENTENCE OF TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AND LIFETIME 6 SATELLITE-BASED MONITORING, TO INCREASE THE **CRIMINAL** 7 PENALTIES FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR AND PROMOTING 8 PROSTITUTION OF A MINOR, TO AMEND THE SEX OFFENDER 9 REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS TO BE MORE STRINGENT, TO REQUIRE 10 COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE PRESENCE OF A 11 SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR OR REPEAT SEX OFFENDER. TO 12 AMEND THE LAW REGARDING BAIL FOR VIOLATIONS OF PROBATION 13 AND POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION, TO CREATE A NEW CRIMINAL 14 OFFENSE THAT MAKES IT UNLAWFUL FOR A SEX OFFENDER TO BE ON 15 CERTAIN PREMISES, AND TO REQUIRE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRIES CHECKS OF CONTRACTUAL PERSONNEL BEFORE ALLOWING THEM TO 16 17 HAVE DIRECT INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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SECTION 1. Article 7A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 14-27.2A. Rape of a child; adult offender.

- (a) A person is guilty of rape of a child if the person is at least 18 years of age and engages in vaginal intercourse with a victim who is a child under the age of 13 years.
- (b) Any person who commits an offense in violation of this section is guilty of a Class B1 felony. Notwithstanding G.S. 15A-1340.10 or any other provision of law, the court, in its discretion, shall impose one of the following sentences on a person convicted of an offense under this section:

- 1 Life imprisonment without parole; or (1) 2 (2) Twenty-five years mandatory active punishment to be followed by 3 satellite-based monitoring for life pursuant to Part 5 of Article 27A of 4 Chapter 14 of the General Statutes. 5 Upon conviction, a person convicted under this section has no rights to 6 custody of or rights of inheritance from any child born as a result of the commission of 7 the rape, nor shall the person have any rights related to the child under Chapter 48 or 8 Subchapter 1 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes. 9 (d) The offense under G.S. 14-27.2(a)(1) is a lesser included offense of the 10 offense in this section." 11 **SECTION 2.** Article 7A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended 12 by adding a new section to read: 13 "§ 14-27.4A. Sexual offense with a child; adult offender. 14 A person is guilty of sexual offense with a child if the person is at least 18 years of age and engages in a sexual act with a victim who is a child under the age of 13 15 16 vears. 17 (b) Any person who commits an offense in violation of this section is guilty of a 18 Class B1 felony. Notwithstanding G.S. 15A-1340.10 or any other provision of law, the 19 court, in its discretion, shall impose one of the following sentences on a person 20 convicted of an offense under this section: 21 (1) Life imprisonment without parole; or 22 Twenty-five years mandatory active punishment to be followed by (2) 23 satellite-based monitoring for life pursuant to Part 5 of Article 27A of 24 Chapter 14 of the General Statutes. 25 The offense under G.S. 14-27.4(a)(1) is a lesser included offense of the (c) offense in this section." 26 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 14-190.16 reads as rewritten: 27 28 "§ 14-190.16. First degree sexual exploitation of a minor. 29 Offense. – A person commits the offense of first degree sexual exploitation of 30 a minor if, knowing the character or content of the material or performance, he: 31 32 Punishment and Sentencing. - Violation of this section is a Class D (d) 33 felony. Class C felony." 34 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 14-190.17 reads as rewritten: 35 "§ 14-190.17. Second degree sexual exploitation of a minor. 36
 - Offense. A person commits the offense of second degree sexual exploitation of a minor if, knowing the character or content of the material, he:
 - Punishment and Sentencing. Violation of this section is a Class F (d) felony."

SECTION 5. G.S. 14-190.17A reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-190.17A. Third degree sexual exploitation of a minor.

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1 Offense. – A person commits the offense of third degree sexual exploitation 2 of a minor if, knowing the character or content of the material, he possesses material 3 that contains a visual representation of a minor engaging in sexual activity. 4

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(d) Punishment and Sentencing. – Violation of this section is a Class I felony. Class H felony."

SECTION 6. G.S. 14-190.18 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-190.18. Promoting prostitution of a minor.

- Offense. A person commits the offense of promoting prostitution of a minor if he knowingly:
 - Entices, forces, encourages, or otherwise facilitates a minor to (1) participate in prostitution; or
 - (2) Supervises, supports, advises, or protects the prostitution of or by a minor.
- (b) Mistake of Age. – Mistake of age is not a defense to a prosecution under this section.
- (c) Punishment and Sentencing. – Violation of this section is a Class D felony. Class C felony."

SECTION 7. G.S. 14-208.6A reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.6A. Lifetime registration requirements for criminal offenders.

It is the objective of the General Assembly to establish a 10-year-30-year registration requirement for persons convicted of certain offenses against minors or sexually violent offenses offenses with an opportunity for those persons to petition in superior court to shorten their registration time period after 10 years of registration. It is the further objective of the General Assembly to establish a more stringent set of registration requirements for recidivists, persons who commit aggravated offenses, and for a subclass of highly dangerous sex offenders who are determined by a sentencing court with the assistance of a board of experts to be sexually violent predators.

SECTION 8. G.S. 14-208.7 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.7. Registration.

- A person who is a State resident and who has a reportable conviction shall be required to maintain registration with the sheriff of the county where the person resides. If the person moves to North Carolina from outside this State, the person shall register within 10 days three business days of establishing residence in this State, or whenever the person has been present in the State for 15 days, whichever comes first. If the person is a current resident of North Carolina, the person shall register:
 - Within 10 days three business days, of release from a penal institution (1) or arrival in a county to live outside a penal institution; or
 - Immediately upon conviction for a reportable offense where an active (2) term of imprisonment was not imposed.
- Registration shall be maintained for a period of at least 10 years following the date of initial county registration registration unless the person, after 10 years of

registration, successfully petitions the superior court to shorten his or her registration time period under G.S. 14-208.12A.

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SECTION 9. G.S. 14-208.9 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.9. Change of address; change of academic status or educational employment status.

- (a) If a person required to register changes address, the person shall report in person and provide written notice of the new address not later than the tenth day the third business day after the change to the sheriff of the county with whom the person had last registered. Upon receipt of the notice, the sheriff shall immediately forward this information to the Division. If the person moves to another county in this State, the Division shall inform the sheriff of the new county of the person's new residence.
- (b) If a person required to register intends to move to another state, the person shall report in person to the sheriff of the county of current residence at least 10 days three business days before the date the person intends to leave this State to establish residence in another state or jurisdiction. The person shall provide to the sheriff a written notification that includes all of the following information: the address, municipality, county, and state of intended residence.
 - (1) If it appears to the sheriff that the record photograph of the sex offender no longer provides a true and accurate likeness of the sex offender, then the sheriff shall take a photograph of the offender to update the registration.
 - (2) The sheriff shall inform the person that the person must comply with the registration requirements in the new state of residence. The sheriff shall also immediately forward the information included in the notification to the Division, and the Division shall inform the appropriate state official in the state to which the registrant moves of the person's notification and new address.
- (b1) A person who indicates his or her intent to reside in another state or jurisdiction and later decides to remain in this State shall, within 10 daysthree business days after the date upon which the person indicated he or she would leave this State, report in person to the sheriff's office to which the person reported the intended change of residence, of his or her intent to remain in this State. If the sheriff is notified by the sexual offender that he or she intends to remain in this State, the sheriff shall promptly report this information to the Division.
- (c) If a person required to register changes his or her academic status either by enrolling as a student or by terminating enrollment as a student, then the person shall, within 10 days, three business days, report in person to the sheriff of the county with whom the person registered and provide written notice of the person's new status. The written notice shall include the name and address of the institution of higher education at which the student is or was enrolled. The sheriff shall immediately forward this information to the Division.
- (d) If a person required to register changes his or her employment status either by obtaining employment at an institution of higher education or by terminating

employment at an institution of higher education, then the person shall, within 40 days, three business days, report in person to the sheriff of the county with whom the person registered and provide written notice of the person's new status not later than the tenth day after the change to the sheriff of the county with whom the person registered. The written notice shall include the name and address of the institution of higher education at which the person is or was employed. The sheriff shall immediately forward this information to the Division."

SECTION 10. G.S. 14-208.9A reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.9A. Verification of registration information.

- (a) The information in the county registry shall be verified semiannually for each registrant as follows:
 - (1) Every year on the anniversary of a person's initial registration date, and again six months after that date, the Division shall mail a nonforwardable verification form to the last reported address of the person.
 - (2) The person shall return the verification form in person to the sheriff within 10 daysthree business days after the receipt of the form.
 - (3) The verification form shall be signed by the person and shall indicate whether the person still resides at the address last reported to the sheriff. If the person has a different address, then the person shall indicate that fact and the new address.
 - (3a) If it appears to the sheriff that the record photograph of the sex offender no longer provides a true and accurate likeness of the sex offender, then the sheriff shall take a photograph of the offender to include with the verification form.
 - (4) If the person fails to return the verification form in person to the sheriff within 10 daysthree business days after receipt of the form, the person is subject to the penalties provided in G.S. 14-208.11. If the person fails to report in person and provide the written verification as provided by this section, the sheriff shall make a reasonable attempt to verify that the person is residing at the registered address. If the person cannot be found at the registered address and has failed to report a change of address, the person is subject to the penalties provided in G.S. 14-208.11, unless the person reports in person to the sheriff and proves that the person has not changed his or her residential address.
- (b) Additional Verification May Be Required. During the period that an offender is required to be registered under this Article, the sheriff is authorized to attempt to verify that the offender continues to reside at the address last registered by the offender.
- (c) Additional Photograph May Be Required. If it appears to the sheriff that the current photograph of the sex offender no longer provides a true and accurate likeness of the sex offender, upon in-person notice from the sheriff, the sex offender shall allow the sheriff to take another photograph of the sex offender at the time of the sheriff's request. If requested by the sheriff, the sex offender shall appear in person at the

sheriff's office during normal business hours within 72 hoursthree business days of being requested to do so and shall allow the sheriff to take another photograph of the sex offender. A person who willfully fails to comply with this subsection is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor."

SECTION 11. G.S. 14-208.12A reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.12A. Request for termination of registration requirement.

(a) A-Ten years from the date of initial county registration, a person required to register under this Part may petition the superior court in the district where the person resides to terminate the 30-year registration requirement 10 years from the date of initial county registration—if the person has not been convicted of a subsequent offense requiring registration under this Article.

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SECTION 12. Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 14-208.18. Sex offender unlawfully on premises.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person required to register under this Article, if the offense requiring registration is described in subsection (b) of this section, to be at any of the following locations:
 - (1) On the premises of any place intended primarily for the use, care, or supervision of minors, including, but not limited to, schools, children's museums, child care centers, nurseries, and playgrounds.
 - Within 300 feet of any location intended primarily for the use, care, or supervision of minors when the place is located on premises that is not intended primarily for the use, care, or supervision of minors, including, but not limited to, places described in subdivision (1) of this subsection that are located in malls, shopping centers, or other property open to the general public.
 - (3) At any place where minors gather for regularly scheduled educational, recreational, or social programs.
- (b) Subsection (a) of this section is applicable only to persons required to register under this Article who have committed any of the following offenses:
 - (1) Any offense in Article 7A of this Chapter.
 - (2) Any offense where the victim of the offense was under the age of 16 years at the time of the offense.
 - (c) A violation of this section is a Class H felony."

SECTION 13. Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 14-208.25A. Community and public notification.

The licensee for each licensed day care center and the principal of each elementary school, middle school, and high school shall register with the North Carolina Sex Offender and Public Protection Registry to receive e-mail notification when a registered sex offender moves within a one-mile radius of the licensed day care center or school."

SECTION 14. G.S. 14-208.27 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.27. Change of address.

If a juvenile who is adjudicated delinquent and required to register changes address, the juvenile court counselor for the juvenile shall provide written notice of the new address not later than the tenth daythe third business day after the change to the sheriff of the county with whom the juvenile had last registered. Upon receipt of the notice, the sheriff shall immediately forward this information to the Division. If the juvenile moves to another county in this State, the Division shall inform the sheriff of the new county of the juvenile's new residence."

SECTION 15. G.S. 14-208.28(2) reads as rewritten: "§ 14-208.28. Verification of registration information.

(2) The juvenile court counselor for the juvenile shall return the verification form to the sheriff within 10 days three business days after the receipt of the form.

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SECTION 16. G.S. 14-208.40(a) reads as rewritten:

- "(a) The Department of Correction shall establish a sex offender monitoring program that uses a continuous satellite-based monitoring system and shall create guidelines to govern the program. The program shall be designed to monitor two-three categories of offenders as follows:
 - (1) Any offender who is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by G.S. 14-208.6(4) and who is required to register under Part 3 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes because the defendant is classified as a sexually violent predator, is a recidivist, or was convicted of an aggravated offense as those terms are defined in G.S. 14-208.6. An offender in this category who is ordered by the court to submit to satellite-based monitoring is subject to that requirement for the person's natural life, unless the requirement is terminated pursuant to G.S. 14-208.43.
 - (2) Any offender who satisfies all of the following criteria: (i) is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by G.S. 14-208.6(4), (ii) is required to register under Part 2 of Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes, (iii) has committed an offense involving the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor, and (iv) based on the Department's risk assessment program requires the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. An offender in this category who is ordered by the court to submit to satellite-based monitoring is subject to that requirement only for the period of time ordered by the court and is not subject to a requirement of lifetime satellite-based monitoring.
 - (3) Any offender who is convicted of any of the following offenses and sentenced to a term of 25 years active punishment and satellite-based monitoring for the duration of the defendant's natural life pursuant to:
 - a. G.S. 14-24.2A(Rape of a child by an adult offender).
 - <u>b.</u> <u>G.S. 14-24.4A(Sexual offense with a child by an adult offender)."</u>

SECTION 16.1. G.S. 14-208.40A, as enacted by S.L. 2007-213, reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-208.40A. Determination of satellite-based monitoring requirement by court.

(a) When an offender is convicted of a reportable conviction as defined by G.S. 14-208.6(4), during the sentencing phase, the district attorney shall present to the court any evidence that (i) the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator pursuant to G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is a recidivist, (iii) the conviction offense was an aggravated offense, or (iv) (iv) the conviction offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.2A, or G.S. 14-27.4A, or (v) the offense involved the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor. The district attorney shall have no discretion to withhold any evidence required to be submitted to the court pursuant to this subsection.

The offender shall be allowed to present to the court any evidence that the district attorney's evidence is not correct.

- (b) After receipt of the evidence from the parties, the court shall determine whether the offender's conviction places the offender in one of the categories described in G.S. 14-208.40(a), and if so, shall make a finding of fact of that determination, specifying whether (i) the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator pursuant to G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is a recidivist, (iii) the conviction offense was an aggravated offense, or (iv) (iv) the conviction offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.2A or G.S. 14-27.4A, or (v) the offense involved the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor.
- (c) If the court finds that the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator, is a recidivist, or has committed an aggravated offense, or was convicted of G.S. 14-27.2A or G.S. 14-27.4A the court shall order the offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for life.
- (d) If the court finds that the offender committed an offense that involved the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor, that the offense is not an aggravated offense, offense or a violation of G.S. 14-27.2A or G.S. 14-27.4A and the offender is not a recidivist, the court shall order that the Department do a risk assessment of the offender. The Department shall have a minimum of 30 days, but not more than 60 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender and report the results to the court.
- (e) Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Department pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the court shall determine whether, based on the Department's risk assessment, the offender requires the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. If the court determines that the offender does require the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for a period of time to be specified by the court."

SECTION 16.2. G.S. 14-208.40B(c), as enacted by Section 3 of S.L. 2007-213, reads as rewritten:

"(c) At the hearing, the court shall determine if the offender falls into one of the categories described in G.S. 14-208.40(a). The court shall hold the hearing and make findings of fact pursuant to G.S. 14-208.40A.

If the court finds that (i) the offender has been classified as a sexually violent predator pursuant to G.S. 14-208.20, (ii) the offender is a recidivist, or—(iii) the

conviction offense was an aggravated offense, <u>or (iv) the conviction offense was a violation of G.S. 14-27.2A or G.S. 14-27.4A</u> the court shall order the offender to enroll in satellite-based monitoring for life.

If the court finds that the offender committed an offense that involved the physical, mental, or sexual abuse of a minor, that the offense is not an aggravated offense or a violation of G.S. 14-27.2A or G.S. 14-27.4A, and the offender is not a recidivist, the court shall order that the Department do a risk assessment of the offender. The Department shall have a minimum of 30 days, but not more than 60 days, to complete the risk assessment of the offender and report the results to the court. The Department may use a risk assessment of the offender done within six months of the date of the hearing.

Upon receipt of a risk assessment from the Department, the court shall determine whether, based on the Department's risk assessment, the offender requires the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring. If the court determines that the offender does require the highest possible level of supervision and monitoring, the court shall order the offender to enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program for a period of time to be specified by the court."

SECTION 17. G.S. 14-208.41 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(c) Any person described by G.S. 14-208.40(a)(3), upon completion of the 25 years of active punishment shall enroll in a satellite-based monitoring program with the Division of Community Corrections office in the county where the person resides. The person shall enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program for the entire period of post-release supervision and shall remain enrolled in the satellite-based monitoring program for the person's life, unless the requirement to enroll in the satellite-based monitoring program is terminated pursuant to G.S. 14-208.42."

SECTION 18. G.S. 14-208.43(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) An offender described by G.S. 14-308.40(a)(1)14-208.40(a)(1) or G.S. 14-208.40(a)(3) who is required to submit to satellite-based monitoring for the offender's life may file a request for termination of monitoring requirement with the Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission. The request to terminate the satellite-based monitoring requirement and to terminate the accompanying requirement of unsupervised probation may not be submitted until at least one year after the offender: (i) has served his or her sentence for the offense for which the satellite-based monitoring requirement was imposed, and (ii) has also completed any period of probation, parole, or post-release supervision imposed as part of the sentence."

SECTION 19. G.S. 15A-1345(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Bail Following Arrest for Probation Violation. – If at any time during the period of probation the probationer is arrested for a violation of any of the conditions of probation, he must be taken without unnecessary delay before a judicial official to have conditions of release pending a revocation hearing set in the same manner as provided in G.S. 15A-534. If the probationer has been convicted of an offense at any time that requires registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes or an offense that would have required registration but for the effective date of the law

establishing the Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program, the court must make a finding that the probationer is not a danger to the public prior to release with or without bail."

SECTION 20. G.S. 15A-1368.4 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(b2) Bail Following Arrest for Violation of Post-Release Supervision if Releasee is a Sex Offender. – Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, if the releasee has been convicted of an offense that requires registration under Article 27A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes and is arrested for a violation in accordance with this section, the releasee shall be detained without bond until the preliminary hearing is conducted."

SECTION 21. Part 6 of Article 22 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 115C-332.1. Sex offender registries checks for certain contractual personnel.

- (a) For purposes of this section, the term 'contractual personnel' includes any individual or entity under contract with the local board of education whose contractual job involves direct interaction with students as part of the job.
- (b) Each local board of education shall require, as a term of any contract the local board of education enters, that employers of a person who is contractual personnel conduct an annual check of that person on the State Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program, the State Sexually Violent Predator Registration Program, and the National Sex Offender Registry. As a term of any contract, a local board of education shall prohibit any contractual personnel listed on the State Sex Offender and Public Protection Registration Program, the State Sexually Violent Predator Registration Program, and the National Sex Offender Registry from having direct interaction with students."

SECTION 21.1. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

SECTION 22. This act becomes effective December 1, 2008, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date. The maintenance of the registration period of 30 years required by G.S. 14-208.7, as amended by Section 8 of this act, applies to registrations made on or after December 1, 2008.