## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2011

H HOUSE DRH50284-LH-60B (01/24)

| Short Title: | Lmt PJCs/B,C, or D, E Felonies. | (Public) |
|--------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Sponsors:    | Representative Spear.           |          |
| Referred to: |                                 |          |

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE COURT SHALL NOT DISPOSE OF A CRIMINAL ACTION THAT IS A CLASS B, C, D, OR E FELONY BY ORDERING A PRAYER FOR JUDGMENT CONTINUED THAT EXCEEDS TWELVE MONTHS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article 81 of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

## "§ 15A-1331B. Prayer for judgment continued for a period of time that exceeds 12 months is an improper disposition of a Class B, C, D, or E felony.

The court shall not dispose of any criminal action that is a Class B, C, D, or E felony by ordering a prayer for judgment continued that exceeds 12 months. If the court orders a prayer for judgment continued in any criminal action that is a Class B, C, D, or E felony, the court shall include as a condition that the State shall pray judgment within a specific period of time, not to exceed 12 months, and the court shall enter a final judgment at the time the State prays judgment or 12 months from the date of the prayer for judgment continued order, whichever is earlier."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2011, and applies to criminal actions heard by the court on or after that date.

