

1 ALLOW THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL TO INVESTIGATE ARSON**2 SECTION 22.4.(a)** G.S. 58-79-1 reads as rewritten:**3 "§ 58-79-1. Fires investigated; reports; records.**

4 The Director of the State Bureau of Investigation, through the State Bureau of
5 Investigation, the State Fire Marshal, and the chief of the fire department, or chief of police
6 where there is no chief of the fire department, in municipalities and towns, and the county fire
7 marshal and the sheriff of the county and the chief of the rural fire department where such fire
8 occurs outside of a municipality, are hereby authorized to investigate the cause, origin, and
9 circumstances of every fire occurring in such municipalities or counties in which property has
10 been destroyed or damaged, and shall specially make investigation whether the fire was the
11 result of carelessness or design. A preliminary investigation shall be made by the chief of fire
12 department or chief of police, where there is no chief of fire department in municipalities, and
13 by the county fire marshal and the sheriff of the county or the chief of the rural fire department
14 where such fire occurs outside of a municipality, and must be begun within three days,
15 exclusive of Sunday, of the occurrence of the fire, and the Director of the State Bureau of
16 Investigation, through the State Bureau of Investigation, shall have the right to supervise and
17 direct the investigation when he deems it expedient or necessary.

18 The officer making the investigation of fires shall forthwith notify the Director of the State
19 Bureau of Investigation, and must within one week of the occurrence of the fire furnish to the
20 Director of the State Bureau of Investigation a written statement of all facts relating to the
21 cause and origin of the fire, the kind, value and ownership of the property destroyed, and such
22 other information as is called for by the forms provided by the Director of the State Bureau of
23 Investigation. Departments capable of submitting the required information by the utilization of
24 computers and related equipment, by means of an approved format of standard punch cards,
25 magnetic tapes or an approved telecommunications system, may do so in lieu of the submission
26 of the written statement as provided for in this section. The Director of the State Bureau of
27 Investigation shall keep in his office a record of all reports submitted pursuant to this section.
28 These reports shall at all times be open to public inspection."

29 SECTION 22.4.(b) This section is effective when this act becomes law.**30**
31 PART XXIII. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS [RESERVED]**32**
33 PART XXIV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY**34**
35 PED STUDY/MEASURABILITY ASSESSMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF
36 ADMINISTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

37 SECTION 24.1. The Program Evaluation Division (hereinafter "Division") is
38 directed to conduct measurability assessments, as provided in Chapter 143E of the General
39 Statutes, and efficiency evaluations of programs and administrative activities of the Department
40 of Administration (hereinafter "Department") to improve Department accountability reporting
41 and to recommend potential cost-savings. Prior to conducting measurability assessments and
42 efficiency evaluations, the Division shall consult with the State Auditor, who shall recommend
43 potential programs or potentially high-cost Department activities that, with changes, may
44 produce cost-savings. Taking into account the recommendations of the State Auditor and the
45 results of the measurability assessments, the Division may select a contractor through a
46 noncompetitive bid process to assist the Division in identifying potential cost-savings. The
47 State Auditor shall review draft findings and recommendations and shall provide a written
48 response to be included in the Division's report. By March 30, 2018, the Division shall report
49 its findings and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight
50 Committee, Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and Joint Legislative Oversight
51 Committee on General Government and, upon request, to other committees.