A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO ALLOW REGISTERS OF DEEDS TO REMOVE PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION FROM IMAGES OR COPIES OF RECORDS PLACED ON THE INTERNET WITHOUT A REQUEST.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 132-1.10 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(f1) Without a request made pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, a register of deeds or clerk of court may remove from an image or copy of an official record placed on a register of deeds' or clerk of court's Internet Web site available to the general public, or placed on an Internet Web site available to the general public used by a register of deeds or clerk of court to display public records, a person's social security or drivers license number contained in that official record. Registers of deeds and clerks of court may apply optical character recognition technology or other reasonably available technology to official records placed on Internet Web sites available to the general public in order to, in good faith, identify and redact social security and drivers license numbers."

SECTION 2. The Conference of Clerks of Superior Court shall, in consultation with the registers of deeds, annually study the status of the individual counties and judicial districts as to whether or not the clerks of superior court or the registers of deeds are implementing this act and report results of the study to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on or before March 1st of each year.

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.