



# SENATE BILL 299: Expand Use of CAM Systems & Create CAM Fund.

2017-2018 General Assembly

---

<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	June 26, 2017
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. J. Jackson, Newton, Britt	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Susan Sitze
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to Second Edition S299-CSTUxf-26		Staff Attorney

---

**OVERVIEW:** *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for S299 would make changes to the statutes regarding the use of continuous alcohol monitoring (CAM) systems as follows:*

- *Expand the use of continuous alcohol monitoring in Level One and Level Two impaired driving punishments.*
- *Create an administrative fee for persons subject to continuous alcohol monitoring.*
- *Create a Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Fund to assist indigent defendants.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 20-179 provides for varying levels of punishment for offenses involving impaired driving based in part on the existence of grossly aggravating, aggravating, and mitigating factors. Grossly aggravating factors include: (1) a prior DWI conviction, (2) driving while license revoked for a DWI, (3) serious injury resulting from the DWI, and (4) the presence of a minor, or physically or mentally disabled adult in the vehicle.

Level One Punishment is required when the defendant has 2 grossly aggravating factors and includes a fine of up to \$4,000 and required imprisonment of 30 days to 24 months, which may be suspended if the court imposes either of the following as a condition of special probation:

- A term of imprisonment of at least 30 days.
- A term of imprisonment of at least 10 days and a requirement that the defendant submit to continuous alcohol monitoring for at least 120 days. Up to 60 days of pretrial continuous alcohol monitoring may be counted towards the 120 days.

Level Two Punishment is required when the defendant has 1 grossly aggravating factor and includes a fine of up to \$2,000 and required imprisonment of 7 days to 12 months, which may be suspended if the court imposes either of the following as a condition of special probation:

- A term of imprisonment of at least 7 days.
- Continuous alcohol monitoring for at least 90 days. If the defendant has a prior DWI within 5 years, the court must also require 240 hours community service. Up to 60 days of pretrial continuous alcohol monitoring may be counted towards the 90 days.

G.S. 20-179(k1) authorizes the court to require that any imprisonment required as a condition of special probation be served in an inpatient substance abuse facility.

**BILL ANALYSIS:**

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

# Senate PCS 299

Page 2

**Section 1** of the PCS for S299 would amend Level One and Level Two punishments under G.S. 20-179.

- Level One Punishment would be amended as follows:
  - Authorize 120 days of continuous alcohol monitoring in lieu of any term of imprisonment.
  - Require 60 days of continuous alcohol monitoring if a court requires that a term of imprisonment be served in an inpatient treatment facility.
  - Allow 120 days of pretrial continuous alcohol monitoring to be credited against any continuous alcohol monitoring requirement for probation.
  - Authorize the court to impose continuous alcohol monitoring
- Level Two Punishment would be amended as follows:
  - Increase the required 7 days of imprisonment to 14 days of imprisonment.
  - Require 30 days of continuous alcohol monitoring if a court requires that a term of imprisonment be served in an inpatient treatment facility.
  - Allow 90 days of pretrial continuous alcohol monitoring to be credited against any continuous alcohol monitoring requirement for probation.

Section 1 of the PCS would also require a defendant on supervised probation to comply with any recommendation for continuous alcohol monitoring that is made based on a substance abuse assessment before supervised probation can be terminated.

**Section 2** of the PCS for S299 would require anyone ordered to comply with continuous alcohol monitoring to pay the costs of the monitoring and also pay an administrative fee, in an amount determined by the Division of Adult Correction of the Department of Public Safety, of not less than \$20 or more than \$30. The fee shall be collected by the vendor and remitted to the Division. 50% of the fee would be used to cover costs of the Division, and 50% of the fee would be deposited in the Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Fund.

The Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Fund would be created to provide access to continuous alcohol monitoring as a sentencing option to persons deemed by the court to be indigent. The court would be authorized to order the Division to pay for the costs of continuous alcohol monitoring for any period ordered by the court.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective December 1, 2017, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.