

House Bill 315 signed by the Governor on 06/14/2022. New offenses go into effect 12/01/2022.

- 14-59.1 – Burning of Jails or Prisons, Class D Felony
- 14-62.3 – Burning of Commercial Structure, Class D Felony if occupied, Class E if unoccupied
- 14-69.3 – Unlawful burning resulting in injury to a Firefighter, LEO, Fire Investigator, or EMT amended to now include “serious injury.” Previously, it only stated “serious bodily injury.” So, this offense can now be charged with a lesser degree of injury. Serious Bodily Injury is a Class E, serious injury is now a Class F.

143B-943 – Section (d1) added to prohibit anyone with a conviction of arson or other felony burning offense from serving in a paid or volunteer position with a fire department. This went into effect on 06/14/2022. Section (f) says the fire department SHALL deny an applicant who refuses to consent to a criminal history check or use of fingerprints.

(Note: The NCGS grants authority to fire departments to conduct criminal history checks by use of fingerprints for current members but does not require it as it does for new applicants.)