

State House votes to criminalize gang activity

By Capital Correspondence, special to The Daily Reflector|

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RALEIGH – Here's how area members of the General Assembly were recorded on major roll call votes in the weeks ending August 25 and Sept. 1.

All members – Marian McLawhorn, Edith Warren and Arthur Williams in the House and Clark Jenkins and John Kerr in the Senate – voted in favor of each measure.

House

— Street Gang Prevention Act: Makes it a criminal offense to participate in a criminal street gang and provides that real property used by a criminal street gang is a public nuisance and establishes penalties for committing crimes as a member of a criminal street gang. Introduced by Rep. Mickey Michaux, D-Durham. Adopted 112-1. Sent to the Senate for consideration.

— Driving From/Leaving Accident Scene (Conference Report): Makes it unlawful to drive away from or otherwise leave the scene of a motor vehicle accident unless seeking law enforcement or medical assistance. Introduced by Rep. Pricey Harrison, D-Guilford. Adopted 115-0. Sent to the governor for approval.

— Cockfighting Penalty (Concurrence Vote): Increases the penalty for cockfighting from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class I felony for persons who instigates, promotes, conducts, is employed at, allows property under his ownership or control to be used for, participates as a spectator at or profits from an exhibition featuring the fighting of a cock. Introduced by Rep. Cary Allred, R-Alamance. Adopted 105-7. Sent to the governor for approval.

— Mercury Switch Removal (Concurrence Vote): Requires the removal of certain mercury switches from automobiles before they sold to a scrap metal recycling facility. Introduced by Rep. Bill Culpepper, D-Chowan. Adopted 114-1. Sent to the governor for approval.

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