

April 17, 2007

H 1558. 1898 WILMINGTON RIOT RECONCILIATION ACT/2007. Filed 4/17/07. *TO ENACT THE 1898 WILMINGTON RIOT RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2007.*

Makes findings about the effects of the 1898 Wilmington Race Riot. Asserts that the state's actions and omissions in 1898 and later years violated federal civil rights laws, and states that this act is an attempt by the state to reconcile the injury inflicted upon Wilmington's African-Americans. Apologizes on behalf of the state for fundamental violations of the basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of African-Americans. States that a further purpose of the act is to provide redress for victims by providing a special statute of limitations to allow legal claims by the estates of persons who were injured or killed or who suffered personal or property losses from the 1898 riot. Enacts GS 1-53(5), providing a two-year period, beginning July 1, 2007, during which an action may be brought for damages resulting from death, personal injury, or physical damage to property resulting from the November 10, 1898, Wilmington Race Riot. Provides that the action may be brought by the estate of an injured person or a living family member or direct descendant of an injured person. Requires consideration of inflation, present replacement value, and loss of use since November 10, 1898, before awarding damages, and subjects damage awards to an 8% compound interest rate dating back to November 10, 1898. Effective July 1, 2007.

Intro. by Wright, Jones (by request).

GS 1