Short Title:	Expand Reach of Courts/Term. Parental Rights.	(Public)
Sponsors:		
Referred to:		

March 19, 2007

1   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2   AN ACT TO EXPAND THE REACH OF NORTH CAROLINA COURTS IN
3   PROCEEDINGS TO TERMINATE THE PARENTAL RIGHTS OF
4   NONRESIDENT PARENTS OF RESIDENT CHILDREN.
5   The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
6   **SECTION 1.** G.S. 7B-1101 reads as rewritten:
7   "**§ 7B-1101. Jurisdiction.**
8   The court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction to hear and determine any
9   petition or motion relating to termination of parental rights to any juvenile who resides
10   in, is found in, or is in the legal or actual custody of a county department of social
11   services or licensed child-placing agency in the district at the time of filing of the
12   petition or motion. The court shall have jurisdiction to terminate the parental rights of
13   any parent irrespective of the age of the parent. Provided, that before exercising
14   jurisdiction under this Article, the court shall find that it has jurisdiction to make a
15   child-custody determination under the provisions of G.S. 50A-201, 50A-203, or
16   50A-204. The court shall have jurisdiction to terminate the parental rights of any parent
17   irrespective of the state of residence of the parent. Provided, that before exercising
18   jurisdiction under this Article regarding the parental rights of a nonresident parent, the
19   court shall find that it has jurisdiction to make a child-custody determination under the
20   provisions of G.S. 50A-201 or G.S. 50A-203, without regard to G.S. 50A-204 and that
21   process was served on the nonresident parent pursuant to G.S. 7B-1106. Provided,
22   further, that the clerk of superior court shall have jurisdiction for adoptions under
23   Chapter 48 of the General Statutes."
24   **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to
25   termination of parental rights proceedings commenced on or after that date.