

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

H

1

HOUSE BILL 540

Short Title: Child Neglect Exposure to Drugs.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Representatives Russell; and Wilson.

---

Referred to: Judiciary II.

---

April 1, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT NEWBORNS WHO WERE EXPOSED TO ILLICIT  
2 DRUG OR ALCOHOL PRIOR TO BIRTH ARE NEGLECTED UNDER G.S. 7A-  
3 517.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 7A-517(21) reads as rewritten:

7 "(21) Neglected Juvenile. – A juvenile who does not receive proper care,  
8 supervision, or discipline from his parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker; or who has  
9 been abandoned; or who is not provided necessary medical care or other remedial care  
10 recognized under State ~~law, law;~~ or who lives in an environment injurious to his  
11 ~~welfare, welfare;~~ or who has been placed for care or adoption in violation of ~~law, law;~~ or  
12 any newborn infant whose body is shown through test to contain any amount of a  
13 controlled substance as defined in Article 5, Chapter 90, of the General Statutes, or a  
14 metabolite of such controlled substance, unless the presence of the controlled substance  
15 or the metabolite thereof is the result of medical treatment administered to the mother or  
16 the newborn infant; or any newborn infant who suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome or  
17 exhibits other physiological or neurological symptoms of drug or alcohol abuse by its  
18 mother; provided that no parent of such a newborn infant shall be subject to criminal  
19 investigation."

20 Sec. 2. Section 1 of this act becomes effective October 1, 1991.