

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 470
Second Edition Engrossed 4/30/97

Short Title: Medical Investigators/AB.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Tallent.

Referred to: Judiciary I.

March 10, 1997

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY MEDICAL
3 INVESTIGATORS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 130A-382 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 130A-382. County medical examiners; examiners and medical investigators;**
7 **appointment; term of office; vacancies. office.**

8 (a) One or more county medical examiners or medical investigators for each
9 county shall be appointed by the Chief Medical Examiner for a three-year term. ~~County~~
10 ~~medical examiners shall be appointed from a list of physicians licensed to practice medicine in~~
11 ~~this State submitted by the medical society of the county in which the appointment is to be made.~~
12 ~~If no names are submitted by the society, the Chief Medical Examiner shall appoint one or more~~
13 ~~medical examiners from physicians in the county licensed to practice medicine in this State. In~~
14 ~~the event no licensed physician in a county accepts an appointment, the Chief Medical Examiner~~
15 ~~may appoint one or more physicians licensed to practice medicine in this State from other~~
16 ~~counties or the local registrar, deputy registrar, subregistrar or coroner. In the event a medical~~
17 ~~examiner is unable to serve in a particular case or for a temporary period of time, the Chief~~
18 ~~Medical Examiner shall designate a physician licensed to practice medicine in this State, the~~
19 ~~local registrar, deputy registrar, subregistrar or coroner.~~

20 (b) A medical examiner or medical investigator may serve more than one county.

1 (c) The Chief Medical Examiner may take jurisdiction in any case or appoint
2 another medical examiner or medical investigator to do so.

3 (d) A medical examiner shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine in this
4 State.

5 (e) A medical investigator shall:

6 (1) Be licensed to practice nursing in this State, or

7 (2) Be a physician's assistant registered under the rules of the North
8 Carolina Board of Medical Examiners, or

9 (3) Successfully complete a training program in death investigation
10 approved by the Chief Medical Examiner.

11 A county medical investigator appointed pursuant to this Article shall have the same
12 powers and duties as a county medical examiner appointed under this Article."

13 Section 2. G.S. 130A-394 is repealed.

14 Section 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.