



SENATE BILL 215: Abolish Brunswick County Coroner

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Judiciary I	Date:	March 30, 2015
Introduced by:	Sen. Rabon	Prepared by:	Amy Jo Johnson
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 215 provides that the Office of Coroner in Brunswick County shall be abolished at the end of the current term or upon a vacancy of that office, whichever occurs first.*

CURRENT LAW: Chapter 152 of the General Statutes sets out the laws relating to coroners in North Carolina, including election and vacancies in office, oaths, bonds, powers and duties.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 215 provides that the Office of Coroner in Brunswick County shall be abolished at the earlier of a vacancy in that office or end of the current term. The bill further provides that Chapter 152 of the General Statutes does not apply to Brunswick County.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective on the earlier of a vacancy in the office of the coroner in Brunswick County or the expiration of the current term of office in 2016.

BACKGROUND: The state-wide medical examiner system was put into place through Session Law 1965-639. Since the late 1960s, counties have abolished the Office of the Coroner. Most recently, Session Law 2010-48 abolished the Office of the Coroner in Rutherford County. There remains less than ten counties with an elected coroner.

