



HOUSE BILL 290: Abolish Columbus County Coroner.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government I. If	Date:	March 24, 2017
	favorable, re-refer to Elections and Ethics		
	Law		
Introduced by:	Rep. Brenden Jones	Prepared by:	Giles Perry
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 290 abolishes the office of coroner in Columbus County.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S185, as introduced by Sen. Britt, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

CURRENT LAW: Chapter 152 of the General Statutes sets out the duties of elected county coroners in the State.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 290 abolishes the office of coroner in Columbus County.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND:

- From 1965-67, several local laws were enacted providing for the appointment of medical doctors as county medical examiners, and abolishing the office of coroner in several counties.
- In 1967, the General Assembly enacted S.L. 1967-1154, which established the State Office of Chief Medical Examiner, to provide for a Statewide system for postmortem examinations of deaths related to crimes, suicide, prison confinement, or other specified circumstances.
- Since the 1960s, the office of elected county coroner has been abolished in most counties.
- There are currently six counties in which the office of county coroner has not been abolished: Avery, Bladen, Cleveland, Columbus, Hoke, and Yadkin.

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