



HOUSE BILL 690: SUDEP Awareness Week.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health	Date:	April 18, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Riddell, Malone, Beasley, Murphy	Prepared by:	Theresa Matula Committee Staff
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 690 would designate the week beginning on the second Sunday in November as Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Week.*

CURRENT LAW:

S.L. 2015-211 required county medical examiners to complete continuing education training as directed by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and based upon established and published guidelines for conducting death investigations. The continuing education training is required to include training regarding sudden unexpected death in epilepsy.

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 690 amends Chapter 103 to add a new section on SUDEP Awareness Week. Chapter 103 of the General Statutes pertains to Sundays, Holidays, and Special Days. The new law [G.S. 103-15] would designate the week beginning on the second Sunday in November as Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Awareness Week in North Carolina.

The long title designates the act as the Shannon Leigh Adcock and Steven Anthony Christos Memorial Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: House Bill 690 would become effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: According to the Epilepsy Foundation, SUDEP "is said to occur when a person with epilepsy dies unexpectedly and was previously in their usual state of health. The death is not known to be related to an accident or seizure emergency such as status epilepticus. When an autopsy is done, no other of cause of death can be found. Each year, more than 1 out of 1,000 people with epilepsy die from SUDEP." ¹

¹ <http://www.epilepsy.com/sudep-institute>

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