



HOUSE BILL 741: DHHS Study/Maternal and Neonatal Care.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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| Committee: | Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate | Date: | June 14, 2018 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. Murphy, Boswell, Adcock, Cunningham | Prepared by: | Jason Moran-Bates |
| Analysis of: | Second Edition | | Staff Attorney |

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 741 would direct the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to study and report on North Carolina's ability to provide access to high-quality, risk-appropriate maternal and neonatal care. It would also permit the simultaneous cremations of fetuses or infants born to the same mother at the same time.*

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1.(a) of the bill would direct DHHS to study North Carolina's ability to provide timely and equitable access to high-quality, risk-appropriate maternal and neonatal care. The study must examine the following:

- The complexity levels of care by all delivering hospitals in caring for birth mothers and newborns.
- The current management of referral and transportation to different facilities and specialty providers.
- Disparities in access to risk-appropriate maternal and hospital care.
- Service gaps.
- Issues impacting the ability to match patient need with provider skill.
- Recommendations to ensure women in North Carolina receive quality prenatal care and to ensure that mothers and newborns are cared for in a facility that can meet their needs.
- Any other issues DHHS deems relevant to the study.

Section 1.(b) of the bill would require DHHS to make an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the 2019 Regular Session of the 2019 General Assembly on or before May 1, 2019, and to make a final report of its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the 2020 General Assembly.

Section 2 of the bill would amend G.S. 90-210.129 to permit the simultaneous cremations of fetuses or infants born to the same mother at the same time.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would be effective when it becomes law.

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