

**NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NUMBER:** House Bill 151

**SHORT TITLE:** Child Fatality Task Force Confidential Records

**SPONSOR(S):** Representative Ruth Easterling

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Yes ( )      **No (X)**      No Estimate Available ( )

FY 1997-98   FY 1998-99   FY 1999-00   FY 2000-01   FY 2001-02

**REVENUES**

**EXPENDITURES**

**NO FISCAL IMPACT**

**POSITIONS:** N/A

**PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &  
PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:** Administrative Office of the Courts

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 1997

**BILL SUMMARY:** This bill clarifies existing statutory authority (G.S. 143-578) regarding the Child Fatality Prevention System. Existing law allows the chairs of the North Carolina Child Fatality Prevention Team, local Child Community Protection / Child Fatality Prevention Teams and the North Carolina Child Fatality Task Force to access any information or reports relevant to the review of a child's death when the death is attributed to child abuse or neglect or in cases of maltreatment. Additionally, the bill specifies which public agencies (state and local) are subject to its provisions and further strengthens the authority of these "teams" to include the power to subpoena records and reports as deemed necessary.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:** Since the intent of this bill is to clarify existing statutory authority of the various components of the Child Fatality Prevention System, no costs are anticipated.

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** None.  
**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910**  
**PREPARED BY:** Karen Hammonds-Blanks & Charles Perusse  
**APPROVED BY:** Tom Covington **TomC**  
**DATE:** April 22, 1997



**Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices**