

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE BILL 1249

Short Title: Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Harrell, England (Primary Sponsors); Coates, Jackson, Lucas, Martin, Neumann, Stewart, and Wray.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, State Government/State Personnel.

April 9, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT ESTABLISHING DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS AWARENESS MONTH.

3 Whereas, deep vein thrombosis occurs when a blood clot forms in one of the large
4 veins, usually in the lower limbs, which leads to partially or completely blocked circulation and
5 may result in a fatal pulmonary embolism; and

6 Whereas, up to 300,000 Americans die each year from pulmonary embolisms, the
7 majority of which result from deep vein thrombosis; and

8 Whereas, pulmonary embolism causes more deaths each year than breast cancer and
9 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) combined and is the leading cause of maternal
10 death associated with childbirth; and

11 Whereas, some of the risk factors for deep vein thrombosis include cancer and
12 certain heart or respiratory diseases; and

13 Whereas, deep vein thrombosis can also be triggered by hospitalization, pregnancy,
14 obesity, or restricted mobility caused by long-distance travel; and

15 Whereas, according to a survey conducted by the American Public Health
16 Association, 74% of Americans are unaware of deep vein thrombosis; and

17 Whereas, deep vein thrombosis is a serious but preventable medical condition that
18 affects approximately 2,000,000 Americans every year, and pulmonary embolism may be the
19 most preventable cause of hospital death in the United States; Now, therefore,
20 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

21 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 103 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
22 section to read:

23 **"§ 103-12. Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month.**

24 The month of March of each year is designated as Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness
25 Month in North Carolina."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

