

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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HOUSE BILL 1494

Short Title: Hospital Visitation/Patient Choice. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Alexander; Faison and Weiss.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Judiciary I.

April 17, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT PERTAINING TO HOSPITAL VISITATION POLICY.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 131E of the General Statutes is amended by adding
5 the following new Part to read:

6 "Part 5A. Miscellaneous Provisions.

7 **"§ 131E-99.5. Hospital visitation.**

8 A hospital patient at any health service facility as defined in G.S. 131E-176(9b) who
9 is 18 years of age or older or an emancipated minor may designate at any time, orally or
10 in writing, individuals not legally related by marriage or blood to the patient and whom
11 the patient wishes to be given the same visitation privileges as an immediate family
12 member of the patient. The patient may rescind the designation at any time, orally or in
13 writing. Any designation or rescission made under this section shall be noted in the
14 patient's medical records at the hospital. For the purposes of this section, 'medical
15 record' means the hospital's record of a patient's health history and treatment rendered."

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