



Roy Cooper, Governor  
*State of North Carolina*

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

***Senate Bill 168, "AN ACT MAKING TECHNICAL, CONFORMING, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS TO LAWS PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND ADDING A PSYCHIATRIC PHYSICIAN PRIVILEGE EXCEPTION TO CRIMES AGAINST JUVENILES REPORTING REQUIREMENTS."***

Senate Bill 168 includes a provision to change the handling of public records by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner which could have the unintended consequence of limiting transparency in death investigations. While I believe neither the Department of Health and Human Services which proposed it, nor the General Assembly which unanimously passed it had any ill intent, the concerns that have since been raised make it clear this provision should not become law.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Cooper".

Roy Cooper  
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 10 day of July 2020, at 7:16 for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

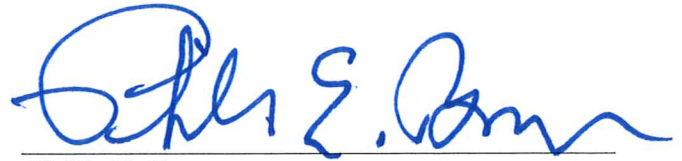
Date July 6, 2020

Time 7:16 p.m.

Signed Sarah Holland

SECTION 4.1. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective October 1, 2020.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.



Philip E. Berger  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate



Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

**VETO**



Roy Cooper  
Governor

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ .m. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Received from the Gov  
July 6, 2020 @  
7:18 p.m.  
Sarah Holland