GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 613 Committee Substitute Favorable 4/13/93

Short Title: Patient Records/EHNR Investigation.	(Public)
Sponsors:	
Referred to:	_

March 29, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ALLOW HEALTH CARE FACILITIES TO FURNISH PUBLIC

HEALTH AUTHORITIES WITH PATIENT RECORDS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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Section 1. G.S. 130A-5(2) reads as rewritten:

To investigate the causes of epidemics and of infectious, "(2)communicable and other diseases affecting the public health in order to control and prevent these diseases; to provide, under the rules of the Commission, for the prevention, detection, reporting and control of communicable, infectious or any other diseases or health hazards considered harmful to the public health health; to obtain, notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 8-53, a copy or a summary of pertinent portions of privileged patient medical records deemed necessary by joint agreement of the attending physician and a Department physician for investigating a disease or health hazard that may present a clear danger to the public health. Records shall be identified as necessary by joint agreement of a Department physician and either the patient's attending physician or the health care facility's chief of staff. For a facility with no chief of staff, the attending physician or the facility's chief administrator may consent to the Department's review of the records. Any physician-person providing copies or summaries of privileged patient medical records pursuant to this subdivision shall be

1	immune from civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be
2	incurred or imposed based upon invasion of privacy or breach of
3	physician-patient confidentiality arising out of the furnishing of or
4	agreement to furnish such records;".
5	Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.