

HOUSE BILL 274: Child Abuse & Neglect/Military Affiliation.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the Date: May 1, 2019

House

Introduced by: Reps. Grange, Potts, White **Prepared by:** Jennifer H. Bedford

Analysis of: Second Edition Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 274 would require the department of social services to collect information regarding the caretaker's military affiliation in the course of an abuse, neglect, or dependency assessment and if evidence of abuse is found by the director, require the director to report the abuse to the appropriate military agency.

CURRENT LAW:

- G. S. 7B-302 requires that information be collected for the director of the department of social services to assess an allegation of abuse, neglect, or dependency.
- G. S. 7B-307 requires the director of the department of social services to report to the district attorney and local law enforcement if the director finds evidence of abuse on a juvenile.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would authorize the collection of information regarding the military affiliation of a parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker of a juvenile alleged to have been abused.

Section 1 would also allow the sharing of information that is otherwise confidential, with a military authority if there has been evidence of abuse found.

Section 2 would require the director of social services to notify the appropriate military authority if evidence of abuse has been found.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Defense is required to report all allegations of abuse and neglect to the local department of social services. The Department of Defense has asked for state legislation that requires the local department of social services to share reports of abuse and neglect with the appropriate military personnel.

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