



CHAPTER 90
ARTICLE 23 - RIGHT TO NATURAL DEATH; BRAIN DEATH

N.C.G.S. § 90-323.

Death; determination by physician.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	c. 715, s. 3 — first act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 04:13 UTC	9056b4e6f492690aa5eda12b - 278db56353e4421cd3013f04 - 28216a3de4a3c66e

The determination that a person is dead shall be made by a physician licensed to practice medicine applying ordinary and accepted standards of medical practice. Brain death, defined as irreversible cessation of total brain function, may be used as a sole basis for the determination that a person has died, particularly when brain death occurs in the presence of artificially maintained respiratory and circulatory functions. This specific recognition of brain death as a criterion of death of the person shall not preclude the use of other medically recognized criteria for determining whether and when a person has died.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
1 ACT

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1979 1980			
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1979	c. 715, s. 3	ENACTED

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-323 (1979).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1979, c. 715, s. 3.)

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1

