

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

20301 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE GOVERNOR

June 24, 2011

GOVERNOR'S OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE

Senate Bill 33, "An act to reform the laws relating to money judgment appeal bonds, bifurcation of trials in civil cases, and medical liability."

I am strongly committed to passing meaningful medical malpractice reform. Doctors, hospitals and nursing homes in North Carolina are all being burdened by medical malpractice insurance rates that are too high.

By working together, we enacted meaningful changes to our tort law (H.B. 542) and our worker's compensation system (H.B. 709) this year. We can achieve real medical malpractice reform as well. I commend the legislature for addressing this important issue but, in its current form, the bill is unbalanced. I urge the General Assembly to modify the bill to protect those that are catastrophically injured. Once the bill is revised to adequately protect those that are catastrophically injured, I will proudly sign it into law. I pledge to continue working with the General Assembly to achieve a comprehensive, bipartisan consensus. In its current form, however, I cannot sign the bill.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

Beverly Eaves Perdue

This bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this 24th day of June, 2011, at 4:37 for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date: June 24, 2011

Time:

Sarah Clapp