

## **Bills Would Reform Certificate of Need Requirement For Medical Facilities**

By Administrator

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A host of proposals to reform North Carolina's Certificate of Need (CON) laws have been filed in the General Assembly. CON laws require medical providers that want to build new facilities or buy or replace their own equipment acquire approval from state regulators. Studies cited by the bill sponsors pointed to CON restrictions leading in part to thousands fewer patient beds in the state, along with fewer MRI machines and CT scanners.

Proposals from Sen. Harry Brown (R-Onslow), Sens. Ralph Hise (R-Mitchell) and Trudy Wade (R-Guilford), Sens. Norman Sanderson (R-Pamlico) and Louis Pate (R-Wayne) and Sen. Tommy Tucker (R-Union) would begin the conversation on eliminating barriers to competition created by CON, and making needed services more accessible at a lower cost.