

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

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**SENATE BILL 502**

Short Title: Access to Decedent's Safe-Deposit Box. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Thomas.

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Referred to: Judiciary II.

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March 24, 2003

1                                   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A DEPUTY TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE CONTENTS  
3 OF A DECEDENT'S SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5           **SECTION 1.** G.S. 28A-15-13(a) reads as rewritten:

6       "(a) Definitions. – The following definitions apply to this section:

7           (1) Institution. – Any entity or person having supervision or possession of  
8               a safe-deposit box to which a decedent had access.

9           (2) Letter of authority. – Letters of administration, letters testamentary, an  
10           affidavit of collection of personal property, an order of summary  
11           administration, or a letter directed to the institution designating a  
12           person entitled to receive the contents of a safe-deposit box to which  
13           the decedent had access. The letter of authority must be signed by the  
14           clerk of superior court or by the clerk's representative.

15           (3) Qualified person. – A person possessing a letter of authority or a  
16           person named as a deputy, lessee or cotenant of the safe-deposit box to  
17           which the decedent had access."

18       **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.