

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 1974

Short Title: RSVP Program Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bowman; and Jeffus.

Referred to: Appropriations.

June 1, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP).

Whereas, North Carolina has over 900,000 citizens 65 years of age and older; and

Whereas, older adults now comprise the fastest growing segment of North Carolina's population with North Carolina experiencing a growth rate of 31% for individuals 65 years of age and older compared with a growth rate of 13% for North Carolina as a whole; and

Whereas, older citizens have contributed greatly to the economic development of North Carolina and will continue to contribute because of their increased numbers; and

Whereas, there is a need for more comprehensive State policies that emphasize keeping these adults as valuable, continuing members of the community; and

Whereas, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), established in 1971, provides a program that offers older adults the opportunity to find meaningful ways to contribute their skills and wisdom to help meet the needs of their local communities; and

Whereas, there are currently 17 Retired Senior Volunteer Programs in the following 25 counties in North Carolina: Buncombe, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Carteret, Columbus, Cumberland, Davie, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford, Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Madison, Mecklenburg, Moore, New Hanover, Orange, Surry, Transylvania, Union, Wake, Wayne, and Yadkin; and

Whereas, federal funding for this program has not increased since 1975; and

1 Whereas, there is currently no federal funding available to start new Retired
2 Senior Volunteer Programs; and

3 Whereas, there is a great need and demand for the Retired Senior Volunteer
4 Programs from local areas; Now, therefore,
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of
7 Aging, Department of Human Resources, the sum of three hundred thousand dollars
8 (\$300,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to fund Retired Senior Volunteer Programs
9 (RSVP), to be allocated as follows:

10 (1) \$200,000 to fund new Retired Senior Volunteer Programs; and

11 (2) \$100,000 to fund existing Retired Senior Volunteer Programs.

12 The program guidelines and standards for new programs shall be in
13 accordance with federal requirements for existing programs. The guidelines for the
14 local matching funds shall also be in accordance with federal guidelines.

15 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.