

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 80

Short Title: Independent Living Program/Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Plexico; and Seymour.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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February 8, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOR A STATEWIDE  
2 INDEPENDENT LIVING REHABILITATION PROGRAM.  
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4 Whereas, the General Assembly has established and funded nine Independent  
5 Living Rehabilitation Program offices that serve 57 counties; and

6 Whereas, the Independent Living Program enables people with severe  
7 physical disabilities to manage their own lives better, to assume more personal  
8 responsibility to their families and to their communities, and to become more  
9 independent; and

10 Whereas, the specific services provided by the Independent Living Program,  
11 such as rehabilitation engineering, home and vehicle modifications, adaptive equipment  
12 purchases, housing placement and assistance, attendant care, attendant management  
13 training, planning for leisure activities, and other independent living guidance and  
14 counseling services, enable many severely physically handicapped people to maximize  
15 their potential as citizens in their homes and in their communities; and

16 Whereas, the independence severely physically handicapped people achieve  
17 through the Independent Living Program enables them to avoid being institutionalized  
18 for as long as possible, while the cost of the Program is far less than institutionalization  
19 would be; and

20 Whereas, seven more Program offices are needed to serve the remaining 43  
21 counties: Alleghany, Anson, Ashe, Avery, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Cherokee,  
22 Chowan, Clay, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Franklin, Gates, Graham, Granville, Halifax,  
23 Hertford, Hyde, Jackson, Johnston, Jones, Macon, Montgomery, Nash, Northampton,

1 Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Person, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly, Swain, Tyrrell,  
2 Vance, Warren, Washington, Watauga, Wilkes, and Wilson; Now, therefore,  
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4           Section 1. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Department  
5 of Human Resources, shall implement the Independent Living Rehabilitation Program  
6 statewide by establishing seven new offices in Craven, Jackson, Nash, Pasquotank,  
7 Stanly, Wake, and Watauga counties to facilitate Independent Living Rehabilitation  
8 Program services in the 43 remaining unserved counties, by providing for the service  
9 needs of eligible citizens served through existing Program offices, and by providing  
10 adequate administrative support to existing offices and the new offices established  
11 pursuant to this section.

12           Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of  
13 Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Resources, the sum of four million  
14 five hundred ninety-six thousand seven hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$4,596,797) for  
15 the 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of seven million two hundred six thousand five  
16 hundred seventy-nine dollars (\$7,206,579) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to implement this  
17 act.

18           Sec. 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.