

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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HOUSE BILL 1644*

Short Title: Funds for Interpreter Services.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Alexander; Insko and Luebke.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 25, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR INTERPRETER SERVICES IN LOCAL
3 HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL
4 SERVICES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
7 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of three
8 million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to
9 hire qualified interpreters based in local health departments and local departments of
10 social services in the State. In addition, these funds may be used by local health
11 departments and local departments of social services to provide incentives to recruit and
12 hire bilingual providers. The Department shall allocate these funds to local health
13 departments and local departments of social services based on funding criteria as
14 recommended by the State Health Director in conjunction with the North Carolina
15 Association of Local Health Directors and the Department of Health and Human
16 Services Hispanic Health Task Force.

17 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Health and
18 Human Services in Section 1 of this act, the sum of one hundred seventy-five thousand
19 dollars (\$175,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year shall be used to provide training and
20 continuing education sessions for interpreters.

21 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.