

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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SENATE DRS65421-LN-174 (5/13)

Short Title: Funds for WakeMed Biomedical Alliance. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Reeves.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO WAKEMED HEALTH & HOSPITALS,
2 INC., FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WAKEMED
3 BIOMEDICAL ALLIANCE.
4

5 Whereas, WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Inc., is a multihospital, private,
6 nonprofit teaching and tertiary health care system based in Wake County; and

7 Whereas, WakeMed's emergency departments handled more than 147,000
8 visits in 2003; and

9 Whereas, WakeMed's heart program leads the State in number of procedures;
10 and

11 Whereas, WakeMed is virtually the sole provider in Wake County of hospital
12 services for the medically underserved population; and

13 Whereas, WakeMed's annual contribution in free care is over \$68,000,000 in
14 addition to bad debt and what is written off for contractual adjustments for Medicare
15 and Medicaid; and

16 Whereas, with over 6,000 employees, WakeMed is the third largest private
17 employer in the Research Triangle Area; and

18 Whereas, WakeMed's medical staff includes nearly 900 physicians,
19 representing all medical and surgical specialties, and is the largest off-site teaching
20 program for UNC-Chapel Hill; and

21 Whereas, WakeMed is positioned to expand services and stimulate economic
22 growth in health care delivery, information technology, and biomedical research and
23 development; and

24 Whereas, the WakeMed Biomedical Alliance will support biomedical
25 research by accelerating the migration of innovative ideas, products, and devices into
26 health care settings; and

1 Whereas, WakeMed Biomedical Alliance will align itself with university
2 systems, the business community, and government entities; and

3 Whereas, funding from the State will provide immediate job creation and
4 create efficient and improved delivery of health care services through an integrated
5 system; Now, therefore,

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to WakeMed
8 Health & Hospitals, Inc., the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the
9 2004-2005 fiscal year for the planning and implementation of the WakeMed Biomedical
10 Alliance.

11 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.