

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

H

1

HOUSE BILL 1635

Short Title: Amend Displaced Homemaker Laws/Up Fund Fees. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Adams, Wainwright (Primary Sponsors); Insko and Weiss.

Referred to: Finance.

May 11, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING THE LAWS PERTAINING TO DISPLACED
HOMEMAKERS AND INCREASING THE FEE WHICH FUNDS THE NORTH
CAROLINA WOMENWORK FUND FOR DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 143B-394.4(4) reads as rewritten:

"As used in this Part, unless the context otherwise requires:

...

(4) "Displaced homemaker" means an individual who:

- a. Has worked in his or her own household ~~for at least five years and during which period~~ and has provided unpaid household services; and
- b. Is unable to secure gainful employment due to the lack of required ~~training~~ training, age, or experience; or is unemployed, or underemployed; and
- c. Has been dependent on the income of another household member but is no longer adequately supported by that income, or is receiving support ~~from a spouse~~ but is within two years of losing ~~such the~~ support, or has been supported by public assistance as the parent of minor children ~~but and is no longer eligible, or is within two years of losing such eligibility-eligible.~~

SECTION 2. G.S. 143B-394.5 is repealed.

SECTION 3. Part 10B of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section to read:

"§ 143B-394.5A. Location of displaced homemaker programs; grant criteria.

1 (a) The Council shall consider the location of displaced homemaker programs
2 based on the probable number of displaced homemakers in an area, the availability of
3 resources for training and education, and viable living wage job opportunities.

4 (b) The Council shall establish a baseline cost of basic program operations
5 criteria to determine grant award categories. The grant criteria shall incorporate
6 displaced homemaker program operational costs based on the location, program
7 delivery capacities, and the probable number of displaced homemakers served in an
8 area."

9 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 143B-394.10 reads as rewritten:

10 "**§ 143B-394.10. North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers.**

11 (a) There is established in the Department of Administration the North Carolina
12 WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers. The Fund shall be administered by the
13 North Carolina Council for Women in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter 143 of the
14 General Statutes and shall be used to make grants to 35-50 programs specifically for
15 displaced homemakers. The Council shall make ~~quarterly grants to each no more than~~
16 50 eligible program programs. Grants shall be awarded according to criteria established
17 by the ~~Council.~~Council pursuant to G.S. 143B-394.4(4) and G.S. 143B-394.5A. No
18 ~~more than ten percent (10%) of these funds shall be used for administrative costs by the~~
19 ~~Council.~~The Council shall use no more than twenty percent (20%) of these funds for
20 administrative costs. In order to be eligible to receive grant funds under this section, a
21 displaced homemaker program shall fulfill all of the criteria established by the Council.
22 ~~The Council shall report annually to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental~~
23 ~~Operations on the revenues credited to the Fund, the programs receiving grants from the~~
24 ~~Fund, the success of those programs, and the costs associated with administering the~~
25 ~~Fund.~~The Council shall award grants to displaced homemaker programs in existence a
26 minimum of two years.

27 (b) The Department, upon recommendations by the Council, shall adopt rules to
28 implement the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers."

29 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 7A-305(a2) reads as rewritten:

30 "(a2) In every final action for absolute divorce filed in the district court, a cost of
31 ~~twenty dollars (\$20.00)~~fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be assessed against the person filing
32 the divorce action. Costs collected by the clerk pursuant to this subsection shall be
33 remitted to the State Treasurer for deposit to the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for
34 Displaced Homemakers established under G.S. 143B-394.10. Costs assessed under this
35 subsection shall be in addition to any other costs assessed under this section."

36 **SECTION 6.** Section 5 of this act becomes effective October 1, 2005, and
37 applies to final actions for absolute divorce filed on or after that date. The remainder of
38 this act becomes effective October 1, 2005.