

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

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HOUSE BILL 107

Short Title: GAST Training Pilot. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Farmer-Butterfield, Earle, Weiss, and Hurley (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

Referred to: Health and Human Services.

February 16, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL
3 DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
4 AND HUMAN SERVICES, TO ESTABLISH A PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM USING
5 GERIATRIC/ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALTY TEAMS TO CONDUCT
6 TRAINING IN ADULT CARE HOMES ON PREVENTING THE ESCALATION OF
7 BEHAVIORS LEADING TO CRISIS, BASED ON RECOMMENDATION 5.1 FROM
8 THE NORTH CAROLINA INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE TASK FORCE ON THE
9 CO-LOCATION OF DIFFERENT POPULATIONS IN ADULT CARE HOMES AND AS
10 RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.

11 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

12 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and
13 Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health and Human Services, shall establish a pilot
14 training program using the Geriatric/Adult Mental Health Specialty Teams (GAST) to provide
15 training on preventing the escalation of behaviors leading to crisis. The training shall be
16 piloted in a local management entity (LME) catchment area located within each of the three
17 regions of the State. The pilot training program shall include all adult care homes located
18 within the coverage area of the selected LMEs. Each adult care home shall be provided with at
19 least three training opportunities per year. These three training opportunities shall be one and
20 one-half hours each and shall cover preventing the escalation of behaviors leading to crisis.

21 Employees of adult care homes covered by the pilot training program must attend at
22 least one training session per year. Adult care home employees specifically required to attend
23 training include direct care workers, supervisors, and administrators, on all shifts. A list of
24 employees, the type of training, and the date they attended training shall be maintained by the
25 adult care home, and the list shall be available for inspection.

26 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and
27 Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health and Human Services, shall evaluate the
28 effectiveness of the pilot training program. The Division shall also determine whether the
29 existing GASTs have the resources to expand this training statewide, the possibility of
30 incorporating this training into the current training delivered by the teams, and any associated
31 costs. On or before September 1, 2012, the Division shall report to the North Carolina Study
32 Commission on Aging and to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health,
33 Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services on the effectiveness of the pilot and
34 recommendations for expansion to all adult care homes licensed by the State.



1 **SECTION 2.** Part 2, Article 1, of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes is amended
2 by adding a new section to read:
3 **"§ 131D-4.9. Adult care home staff training.**
4 Adult care homes licensed pursuant to this Chapter shall permit Geriatric/Adult Mental
5 Health Specialty Teams to conduct staff training.
6 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.