

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013**

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HOUSE BILL 993

Short Title: Funds for Poison Control. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bryan, Arp, and Earle (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 18, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
2 HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE
3 POISON CONTROL SERVICES THROUGH THE CAROLINAS POISON CENTER.

4
5 Whereas, poisoning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death
6 in North Carolina; and

7 Whereas, poisoning is the fastest growing cause of child fatality in North Carolina;
8 and

9 Whereas, the misuse of new synthetic drugs is a growing concern; and

10 Whereas, poison control centers provide critical primary supports to the public and
11 to medical professionals in handling poisoning cases and saving lives; and

12 Whereas, the Carolinas Poison Center averted approximately \$9,500,000 in medical
13 costs by diverting individuals from unnecessary emergency room visits in 2009, with
14 approximately \$3,100,000 in savings accruing to Medicaid; and

15 Whereas, yearly call volume has increased to approximately 100,000 calls per year;
16 Now, therefore,

17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
19 Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of one million four hundred
20 thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and the sum of one million four
21 hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. These funds shall be used
22 to increase the State contract with the Carolinas Poison Center, the designated poison center for
23 North Carolina operated by Carolinas Medical Center.

24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2013.

