

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021**

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SENATE BILL 485

Short Title: Fund Drug Treatment/Mental Health Courts. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Mohammed, Foushee, and Robinson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 5, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO CREATE AND SUPPORT LOCAL DRUG TREATMENT COURT PROGRAMS
2 AND MENTAL HEALTH COURT PROGRAMS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated the sum of four million two hundred thousand
5 dollars (\$4,200,000) in recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium
6 from the General Fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts to be used to support the work
7 of the North Carolina Drug Treatment Court Program in creating and sustaining local drug
8 treatment court programs.

9 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated the sum of four million two hundred thousand
10 dollars (\$4,200,000) in recurring funds for each fiscal year of the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium
11 from the General Fund to the Administrative Office of the Courts to be used to facilitate the
12 creation and funding of new and existing mental health court programs to serve individuals that
13 have a mental health diagnosis or treatment history and are defendants in the criminal justice
14 system. Among other functions, the local mental health court programs funded by this section
15 shall recommend mental health treatment plans for individuals served by the programs and shall
16 monitor the progress of the individuals receiving treatment while the individuals remain in the
17 program.

18 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.
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