

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL DRS35385-MRa-170

Short Title: Increase Veterans Access to Health Care. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators deViere, Mohammed, and Fitch (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO EXPRESS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INTENT TO INCREASE
3 VETERANS ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IN NORTH CAROLINA BY EXPANDING
4 ELIGIBILITY FOR THE MEDICAID PROGRAM TO VETERANS WITH A MODIFIED
5 ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME THAT IS BELOW ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE
6 FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** It is the intent of the General Assembly to expand Medicaid
9 eligibility to the following population of North Carolina veterans:

- 10 (1) Veterans with a modified adjusted gross income that is below one hundred
11 percent (100%) of the federal poverty level.
12 (2) Veterans who are age 19 or older and under age 65.
13 (3) Veterans who are not entitled to or enrolled in Medicare benefits under Part A
14 or Part B of Title XVIII of the federal Social Security Act.
15 (4) Veterans who are not otherwise eligible for Medicaid coverage under the
16 North Carolina State Plan as it existed on January 1, 2020.

17 **SECTION 1.(b)** For the purposes of this section, a veteran shall be defined as a
18 North Carolina resident who is entitled to any benefits or rights under the laws of the United
19 States by serving in and discharging honorably from the Armed Forces of the United States.

20 **SECTION 2.** It is the intent of the General Assembly that the costs associated with
21 Medicaid expansion to the population described under Section 1 of this act shall be paid entirely
22 from the following sources and without assistance from the federal government:

- 23 (1) The General Fund.
24 (2) An increase in assessments on hospitals similar to the Hospital Provider
25 Assessment Act in Article 7 of Chapter 108A of the General Statutes.
26 (3) A tax on prepaid health plan premiums and an assessment on managed care
27 organizations operating in this State.

28 **SECTION 3.** The sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in
29 nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year is appropriated from the General Fund to the
30 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits, for planning and
31 preparation related to implementation of the Medicaid coverage described in this act.

32 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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