

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 167

Short Title: Heart Disease Data Act.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Aldridge; Bonner, Sexton, and Sutton.

Referred to: Human Resources, if favorable, Appropriations.

February 13, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
2 CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE HEALTH OUTCOME DATA UNIT, AS
3 RECOMMENDED BY THE HEART DISEASE AND STROKE PREVENTION
4 TASK FORCE.
5

6 Whereas, heart disease is the leading cause of death in North Carolina, and
7 stroke is the third leading cause of death in North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, in North Carolina, heart disease and stroke are the leading causes of
9 hospital expenditures; and

10 Whereas, the annual costs of cardiovascular disease to the health care system
11 in the United States in 1996 were estimated to have been \$151 billion, a 9% increase
12 from the previous year; and

13 Whereas, several organizations, both public and private, are currently
14 collecting health outcome data on cardiovascular disease (CVD); however, there is no
15 central coordination and assessment of these data for the State of North Carolina; and

16 Whereas, available high quality CVD health outcome data are essential in
17 order to:

- 18 (1) Target CVD interventions, which will achieve efficient use of limited
19 resources;

1 (2) Motivate CVD intervention participants, which will achieve effective
2 utilization of limited resources; and

3 (3) Evaluate CVD activities, which will then achieve accountable utilization
4 of limited resources; and

5 Whereas, absence of such coordination has led to duplication of resources for
6 CVD data assessment, missed opportunities for CVD prevention activities, and
7 incomplete knowledge of the incidence of these diseases that are affecting North
8 Carolina's vulnerable populations; and

9 Whereas, high quality CVD health outcome data are essential tools in the
10 prevention and treatment of CVD and to the effective, efficient utilization of the State's
11 health promotion/disease prevention resources; and

12 Whereas, the North Carolina Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force
13 must have comprehensive, timely, and specific data in order to design a comprehensive
14 statewide plan to prevent heart disease and stroke and to assure the effective
15 implementation of the plan; Now, therefore,

16 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

17 Section 1. (a) The purposes of this act are to:

18 (1) Provide for the coordination and assessment of all existing
19 cardiovascular databases within the State;

20 (2) Build a CVD surveillance system according to national guidelines;

21 (3) Establish a mechanism for the evaluation of public and private CVD
22 health promotion/disease prevention activities;

23 (4) Integrate these existing activities with the CVD intervention efforts of
24 the North Carolina Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force;
25 and

26 (5) Provide the State's citizens with an improved quality of life and society
27 with a reduction of health care costs by developing a comprehensive
28 tool for monitoring cardiovascular conditions that affect the health and
29 physical well-being of hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians.

30 (b) There is established the Cardiovascular Disease Health Outcome Data
31 Unit in the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. The Department
32 shall, through this Unit, do the following:

33 (1) Identify existing CVD databases;

34 (2) Develop a strategic plan for effective utilization of existing CVD
35 databases;

36 (3) Negotiate collaborative efforts with managers of existing CVD
37 databases;

38 (4) Analyze existing data from CVD databases; and

39 (5) Provide timely, sensitive and specific data to the North Carolina Heart
40 Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force.

41 Section 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
42 Environment, Health, and Natural Resources the sum of one hundred twenty-one
43 thousand seven hundred seventy dollars (\$121,770) for the 1997-98 fiscal year and the

1 sum of one hundred thirty thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$130,838) for the
2 1998-99 fiscal year to fund the Cardiovascular Disease Health Outcome Data Unit
3 established under this act.

4 Section 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997.