

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 480
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/23/97
Third Edition Engrossed 7/14/97

Short Title: WomenWork Fund.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 10, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA WOMENWORK FUND FOR
DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE NORTH
CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN, AND TO ESTABLISH AN ADDITIONAL
CIVIL ACTION FEE TO BE COLLECTED BY THE COURT IN DIVORCE
ACTIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Part 10B of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section to read:

§ 143B-394.10. North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers.

(a) There is established in the Department of Administration a nonreverting, interest-bearing special revenue fund to be known as the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers. The Fund shall consist of revenue credited to the Fund for the costs imposed by G.S. 7A-305(a2) and any other monies credited to it. The Fund shall be administered by the Council in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes and shall be used to make grants to programs for displaced homemakers. The Council shall make quarterly grants to each eligible program. Grants shall be awarded according to criteria established by the Council. No more than ten percent

1 (10%) of these funds shall be used for administrative costs by the Council. In order to be
2 eligible to receive grant funds under this section, a displaced homemaker program shall
3 fulfill all of the criteria established by the Council. The Council shall report annually to
4 the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the revenues credited
5 to the Fund, the programs receiving grants from the Fund, the success of those programs,
6 and the costs associated with administering the Fund.

7 (b) The Department, upon recommendations by the Council, shall adopt rules to
8 implement the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers."

9 Section 2. G.S. 7A-305 is amended by adding the following new subsection to
10 read:

11 "(a2) In every action for absolute divorce under G.S. 50-6 filed in the district court, a
12 cost of twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be assessed against the person filing the divorce
13 action. Costs collected by the clerk pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the
14 State Treasurer for deposit to the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced
15 Homemakers established under G.S. 143B-394.10. Costs assessed under this subsection
16 shall be in addition to any other costs assessed under this section."

17 Section 3. G.S. 7A-305(c) reads as rewritten:

18 "(c) The clerk of superior court, at the time of the filing of the papers initiating the
19 action or the appeal, shall collect as advance court costs, the ~~facilities fee and General Court~~
20 ~~of Justice fee,~~ facilities fee, General Court of Justice fee, and the divorce fee imposed
21 under subsection (a2) of this section, except in suits by an indigent. The clerk shall also
22 collect the fee for discovery procedures under Rule 27(a) and (b) at the time of the filing
23 of the verified petition."

24 Section 4. This act is effective when it becomes law, and applies to actions for
25 absolute divorce under G.S. 50-6 filed on and after that date.