

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 839

Short Title: Medical Evaluation Program Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Hoyle.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 14, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE CONTINUATION AND
2 ENHANCEMENT OF THE MEDICAL EVALUATION PROGRAM IN THE
3 DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DRIVER
4 MEDICAL EVALUATION PROGRAM STUDY COMMISSION.
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. There is appropriated from the Highway Fund to the Division of
8 Motor Vehicles the following funds for the designated purposes for the 1997-98 fiscal
9 year to implement the following recommendations of the Driver Medical Evaluation
10 Program Study Commission:

- 11 (1) \$55,000 for an education program to assist older drivers based upon the
12 American Association of Retired Persons' (AARP) "55 Alive" program;
13 a new collaborative effort between the AARP, the Division of Motor
14 Vehicles (DMV), the Driver Medical Evaluation Program (DME), and
15 the Injury Control Section of the Department of Environment, Health,
16 and Natural Resources (DEHNR).
17 (2) \$10,000 to print and distribute educational pamphlets to explain the
18 Driver Medical Evaluation Program and how participants can be
19 released from the program.

- 1 (3) \$5,000 to establish and maintain a Web Page on the Internet for DMV,
2 including information on the Driver Medical Evaluation Program.
- 3 (4) \$79,889 to fund an additional DME Health Physician II to review cases.
- 4 (5) \$29,800 for a contract with SIPS for computer support for DMV's
5 Medical Imaging System; including \$10,400 for 520 hours of computer
6 support and \$19,400 for analyst programming services.
- 7 (6) \$25,200 for point to point data communications costs to comply with
8 Medical Imaging System operating requirements.
- 9 (7) \$3,000 to provide for annual training for members of the Medical
10 Review Boards to keep them current on medical information included in
11 the updated N.C. Physician's Guidelines for Driver Medical Evaluation.
- 12 (8) \$50,000 for ongoing research to establish and verify the effectiveness of
13 the Drivers Medical Evaluation Program in preventing accidents and
14 improving the safety of the motoring public.
- 15 (9) \$7,000 to allow the DMV to periodically conduct Medical Review
16 Customer Satisfaction Surveys before and after the Medical Imaging
17 System is fully implemented to document the improvements in
18 customer service and to seek feedback from affected drivers.

19 Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997.