

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1020

Short Title: Cancer Patient Assistance. (Local)

Sponsors: Representatives Earle, Adams (Primary Sponsors); M. Alexander, Burris-Floyd, Faison, Glazier, Harrison, Lucas, Mobley, Stewart, Tarleton, Wainwright, and Wray.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Appropriations.

April 2, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
3 DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO ASSIST CANCER PATIENTS WITH THE
4 MANAGEMENT OF THE DISEASE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Part 1 of Article 7 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is
7 amended by adding the following new section to read:

8 "**§ 130A-216. Cancer patient navigation program.**

9 The Department shall establish a cancer patient navigation program under the Breast and
10 Cervical Cancer Control Program. The purpose of the program shall be to provide education
11 about and assistance with the management of cancer. At a minimum, the program shall do the
12 following:

- 13 (1) Initially serve breast and cervical cancer patients statewide with the intent of
14 future expansion to all other cancer types.
15 (2) Employ a multidisciplinary team approach to assist cancer patients in
16 identifying and gaining access to available health care, financial and legal
17 assistance, transportation, psychological support, and other related issues.
18 (3) Work with an existing cancer service agency that is not affiliated with a
19 particular health care institution so that program clients may have access to
20 any cancer health care facility in the State."

21 **SECTION 2.** The Department may adopt rules necessary to carry out the
22 provisions of this act. The Department shall begin initial implementation of the statewide
23 program established under Section 1 of this act in Mecklenburg and Guilford Counties.

24 **SECTION 3.** The Department shall report its progress on the implementation of
25 this program to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and
26 Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the
27 Fiscal Research Division not later than May 1, 2010.

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

