

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

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SENATE BILL 854

Short Title: Disparity Studies/DHHS/DOT. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Smith (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

May 27, 2020

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT DISPARITIES STUDIES
REGARDING THE LETTING OF CONTRACTS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS Secretary) shall perform an internal disparity analysis on procurements and contracting regarding the use of Minority and Women-Owned Businesses in contracting to test, trace, and track COVID-19 although its deadly impact has primarily been in the minority communities. The DHHS Secretary shall report any findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than August 1, 2020.

SECTION 1.(b) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be used to fund the study required under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 2.(a) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOT Secretary) shall perform an internal disparity analysis on procurements and contracting regarding the use of Minority and Women-Owned Businesses in contracting highway construction contracts. The DOT Secretary shall report any findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than August 1, 2020.

SECTION 2.(b) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be used to fund the study required under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2020.

