

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 777  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10387-MGa-164

Short Title: Expand Project C.A.R.E./Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative von Haefen.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
3 SERVICES, DIVISION OF AGING AND ADULT SERVICES, FOR EXPANSION OF  
4 THE PROJECT CAREGIVER ALTERNATIVES TO RUNNING ON EMPTY (PROJECT  
5 C.A.R.E.) PROGRAM.

6 Whereas, the Alzheimer's Association projects that by 2025 an estimated 210,000  
7 North Carolinians (age 65 and older) will have Alzheimer's disease, which represents a 16.7%  
8 increase from 180,000 persons in 2020; and

9 Whereas, Medicaid costs are projected to increase 22.2% during this five-year period  
10 for persons with Alzheimer's disease; and

11 Whereas, in North Carolina, much of the care provided for individuals with  
12 Alzheimer's is by an estimated 479,000 unpaid caregivers with the cost of care valued at  
13 approximately \$7.15 billion in 2019; and

14 Whereas, the costs of health care and long-term care services for individuals living  
15 with dementia are substantially higher than for those without dementia, which adds a financial  
16 burden to the physical, emotional, and social challenges families encounter in providing care to  
17 loved ones with dementia; and

18 Whereas, Project C.A.R.E. provides caregivers of individuals living with dementia  
19 care consultation services, including dementia specific information, caregiver assessments and  
20 individualized care plans, caregiver education, and connections to community-based services and  
21 resources; Now, therefore,

22 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

23 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
24 Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, the sum of five hundred  
25 seventy-five thousand dollars (\$575,000) in recurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year and the  
26 sum of five hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$575,000) in recurring funds for the  
27 2022-2023 fiscal year to expand the Project Caregiver Alternatives to Running on Empty  
28 Program (Project C.A.R.E.), which provides support to individuals with dementia and their  
29 caregivers. It is the intent of the General Assembly to increase by ten percent (10%) each fiscal  
30 year the amount of recurring funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human  
31 Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, for allocation to Project C.A.R.E.

32 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.



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