GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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HOUSE BILL 212*

Short Title: Cherry Hosp./Mental Health Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Kerr, Tart; Albertson, Anderson, Beard, Bowen, Chapin, Church, Colton, Cooper, J. Crawford, Creech, DeVane, Edwards, L. Etheridge, Hall, Hardaway, James, Lilley, Mills, Perdue, Redwine, Rogers, R. Thompson, Warner, Warren, Watkins, and Woodard.

Referred to: Human Resources.

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February 14, 1989

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO INCREASE THE STAFF/PATIENT LEVEL AT CHERRY HOSPITAL AND TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVE SERVICES FOR THE SEVERELY MENTALLY ILL.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of two million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$2,800,000) for the 1989-90 fiscal year and the sum of two million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$2,800,000) for the 1990-91 fiscal year, to bring the level of staffing at Cherry Hospital to the same level as at Broughton Hospital.

Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the 1989-90 fiscal year and the sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the 1990-91 fiscal year, to be used in the Eastern Region to provide community-based alternatives to institutionalization at Cherry Hospital for adults with severe and persistent mental illness. These alternatives shall include greater local inpatient crisis stabilization, day services, and liaison capacity.

Sec. 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.