

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2003**

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**HOUSE BILL 1353**

Short Title: Cardiovascular Diseases Institute. (Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives McLawhorn, Warren, C. Johnson, Tolson (Primary Sponsors); Crawford, Cunningham, Daughtridge, Farmer-Butterfield, Glazier, Goodwin, LaRoque, Parmon, Stiller, Wainwright, and Weiss.

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Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

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May 11, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE  
3 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO CONSTRUCT THE NORTH  
4 CAROLINA CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES INSTITUTE AT EAST  
5 CAROLINA UNIVERSITY.

6       Whereas, the State of North Carolina has one of the highest incidences of  
7 advanced cardiovascular disease in the nation, killing one in four North Carolinians  
8 yearly; and

9       Whereas, in North Carolina cardiovascular diseases lead hospital admissions  
10 and in the years 1995 and 1996 alone resulted in over 304,000 inpatient admissions with  
11 parallel associated costs exceeding over four billion dollars; and

12       Whereas, this State has the fifteenth highest death rate from cardiac illnesses  
13 in the country and the fourth highest death rate from stroke in the United States; and

14       Whereas, the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina are plagued by a  
15 multiplier of the average death rate because of limited access to clinical care, inadequate  
16 diagnostic outreach, a lack of new technology and lagging prevention methods; and

17       Whereas, working together through the University Health Systems of Eastern  
18 Carolina, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and Pitt County  
19 Memorial Hospital have become the major resources for treatment, education, and  
20 research for these costly diseases and in recent years have extended services and  
21 programs to the entire State; and

22       Whereas, there is both a desire and a need to expand the clinical and basic  
23 research efforts at the Brody School of Medicine, as well as education and training  
24 through a new multidisciplinary, internationally recognized cardiovascular diseases  
25 institute that would serve all citizens of the State; and

1           Whereas, the broad areas of focus of this expanded clinical and research  
2 effort would include heart and vascular disease, hypertension, and stroke, as well as  
3 developing new technologies in surgery and medicine; and

4           Whereas, this effort would be comprised of two structural components: a  
5 cardiovascular clinical research and education center and a basic science research  
6 center; and

7           Whereas, an integrative approach would be used that would effectively  
8 integrate cardiovascular service lines; and

9           Whereas, these centers would also house a central cardiovascular data center  
10 that would be a repository for all images, diagnostic and medical records, and  
11 hemodynamic demographic data related to the hospital and center; Now, therefore,

12 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

13           **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of  
14 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of sixty million dollars  
15 (\$60,000,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to construct the North Carolina  
16 Cardiovascular Diseases Institute at East Carolina University.

17           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.