

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE BILL 1729

Short Title: Funds for ALS Association. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lewis, Church, Howard, Crawford (Primary Sponsors); L. Allen, Bell, Culp, Dickson, Glazier, Gorman, Gulley, Holliman, Hunter, Jeffus, C. Johnson, Jones, McAllister, McGee, McHenry, McLawhorn, Munford, Owens, Pate, Preston, Rayfield, Ross, Setzer, Steen, Wainwright, Walend, K. Williams, and C. Wilson.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 27, 2004

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
2 HUMAN SERVICES FOR ALLOCATION TO THE ALS ASSOCIATION FOR
3 CORE PROGRAMS, CLINICS, AND RESEARCH EFFORTS.
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5 Whereas, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive
6 neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, causing
7 motor neurons to die; and

8 Whereas, ALS is also known as "Lou Gehrig's disease"; and

9 Whereas, at any given time there are 30,000 individuals in the United States
10 living with ALS; and

11 Whereas, such simple tasks as walking, talking, and grooming become
12 difficult if not impossible; and

13 Whereas, despite the widespread effects of ALS on the body, the mind
14 remains sharp; and

15 Whereas, programs of the Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter of the ALS
16 Association have the potential to serve nearly 700 ALS patients across the State; Now,
17 therefore,

18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
20 Department of Health and Human Services the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000)
21 for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated to the ALS Association,
22 Inc., Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter, to be used for funding core programs, clinics, and
23 research efforts. Core programs include augmentative Communication Loan Closet,
24 respite care, transportation, hardship grants, and loan closet.

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