

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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HOUSE BILL 1239

Short Title: ECU & UNC-CH/Dental School Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives McLawhorn, E. Warren, Williams, Tolson (Primary Sponsors); Spear and Wray.

Referred to: Appropriations.

March 29, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
3 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR DENTAL SCHOOLS AT THE
4 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL AND EAST
5 CAROLINA UNIVERSITY.

6 Whereas, there is a growing need for additional dentists in North Carolina;
7 and

8 Whereas, NC ranks 47th in the nation in dentists per capita; and

9 Whereas, only seven out of 100 counties in North Carolina meet or exceed
10 the national average of dentists per capita; and

11 Whereas, four counties, all in eastern North Carolina, have no dentist; and

12 Whereas, 33 counties saw a decline in dentists per capita from 1996 to 2005;
13 and

14 Whereas, dental caries remains the leading disease in children; and

15 Whereas, in response to the growing need for additional dentists in the State,
16 East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill jointly
17 developed the Joint Plan for Dentistry under the direction of President Bowles and UNC
18 General Administration; and

19 Whereas, the Joint Plan endorses the expansion of the size of the dental
20 school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and endorses the development
21 of a new dental school at East Carolina University and fourth-year educational service
22 learning sites located in underserved areas of the State; and

23 Whereas, the Joint Plan is designed to draw on the strengths and missions of
24 both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina University; and

25 Whereas, the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina
26 unanimously approved the Joint Plan for Dentistry to serve the needs of the citizens
27 throughout the State by providing dental education and dental outreach; and

1 Whereas, the Board of Governors is recommending the General Assembly
2 provide funds to implement the Joint Plan; Now, therefore,
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
5 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of forty-three million five
6 hundred thousand dollars (\$43,500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of
7 forty-three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$43,500,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal
8 year to construct a dental school building on the Health Sciences Campus at East
9 Carolina University and associated fourth-year educational service learning sites
10 throughout the region and State.

11 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
12 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of forty-four million nine
13 hundred forty thousand dollars (\$44,940,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum
14 of fifty-one million sixty thousand dollars (\$51,060,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year
15 to construct a building for the School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina at
16 Chapel Hill.

17 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
18 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one million three hundred
19 thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one million
20 three hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to operate the
21 School of Dentistry at East Carolina University as part of the Joint Plan for dental
22 education and dental outreach in North Carolina.

23 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.