

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**SENATE BILL 374**

Short Title: Funds/Prevent Neural Tube Birth Defects. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Purcell; Bingham, Dorsett, Forrester, McKissick, and Rouzer.

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Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

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March 4, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO FURTHER PREVENT OR REDUCE NEURAL  
2 TUBE BIRTH DEFECTS BY CREATING A STATEWIDE VITAMIN DISTRIBUTION  
3 PROGRAM.  
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
7 Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of four hundred eighty  
8 thousand dollars (\$480,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year and the sum of four hundred eighty  
9 thousand dollars (\$480,000) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to  
10 purchase multivitamins with folic acid that have proven to be effective in reducing and  
11 preventing neural tube birth defects. The vitamins shall be distributed to low-income women of  
12 childbearing age through a statewide vitamin distribution program operating through local  
13 health departments and other safety net providers such as community health centers and rural  
14 and migrant health centers.

15 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

