

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

**H.B. 993**  
**Apr 17, 2013**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE DRH30235-MGa-78 (03/07)

Short Title: Funds for Poison Control. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bryan, Arp, and Earle (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
3 HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO PROVIDE STATEWIDE  
4 POISON CONTROL SERVICES THROUGH THE CAROLINAS POISON CENTER.  
5 Whereas, poisoning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death  
6 in North Carolina; and  
7 Whereas, poisoning is the fastest growing cause of child fatality in North Carolina;  
8 and  
9 Whereas, the misuse of new synthetic drugs is a growing concern; and  
10 Whereas, poison control centers provide critical primary supports to the public and  
11 to medical professionals in handling poisoning cases and saving lives; and  
12 Whereas, the Carolinas Poison Center averted approximately \$9,500,000 in medical  
13 costs by diverting individuals from unnecessary emergency room visits in 2009, with  
14 approximately \$3,100,000 in savings accruing to Medicaid; and  
15 Whereas, yearly call volume has increased to approximately 100,000 calls per year;  
16 Now, therefore,  
17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  
18 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
19 Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of one million four hundred  
20 thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year and the sum of one million four  
21 hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. These funds shall be used  
22 to increase the State contract with the Carolinas Poison Center, the designated poison center for  
23 North Carolina operated by Carolinas Medical Center.  
24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2013.

