

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017**

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SENATE BILL 788

Short Title: Knight-LeCount Advocacy for Marrow Ed. & Reg. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Smith (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

May 31, 2018

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS MARROW DONATION
2 AWARENESS MONTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
3 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO RAISE
4 AWARENESS ABOUT BONE MARROW DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION
5 AND TO IMPLEMENT A PILOT PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE NORTH CAROLINA
6 RESIDENTS TO JOIN A BONE MARROW DONATION REGISTRY.
7

8 Whereas, there are thousands of persons across the United States with blood cancers,
9 such as leukemia and lymphoma, as well as sickle cell disease and other diseases, who could
10 benefit from receiving a lifesaving bone marrow or peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC) transplant;
11 and

12 Whereas, the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) operates the "Be the Match
13 Registry," and the first step to becoming a donor is to join this registry; and

14 Whereas, all that is required to register with the NMDP is to complete the online form,
15 order a registration kit, follow the instructions in the kit to collect a swab of cheek cells, and
16 return the kit to the NMDP in order to determine any potential patient matches; and

17 Whereas, a potential donor who matches a patient is asked to make either a bone
18 marrow or PBSC donation; and

19 Whereas, bone marrow donation is a surgical outpatient hospital procedure in which
20 the donor receives anesthesia and feels no pain, and the donated liquid marrow replaces itself
21 completely within four to six weeks; and

22 Whereas, PBSC donation is a nonsurgical procedure that takes place at a blood center
23 or outpatient hospital unit and involves a transplant of cells from circulating blood, with the donor
24 receiving injections of a drug called Filgrastim over a five-day period leading up to donation in
25 order to increase the number of blood-forming cells in the bloodstream, and then having blood
26 removed through a needle in one arm and passed through a machine that separates out the
27 blood-forming cells, with the remaining blood returned to the donor through the other arm; and

28 Whereas, the donor's blood-forming cells return to normal levels within four to six
29 weeks; and

30 Whereas, all medical costs for the donation procedure are covered by the NMDP or
31 the donor's health insurance, as are travel expenses and other nonmedical costs, leaving only the
32 potential cost to the donor of time taken off from work; Now, therefore,

33 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

34 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Knight-LeCount
35 Advocacy for Marrow Education and Registration Act" or "KLAMER Act."



1 **SECTION 2.** Chapter 103 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
2 section to read:

3 **"§ 103-15. Marrow Donation Awareness Month.**

4 The month of November of each year is designated as Marrow Donation Awareness Month
5 in North Carolina."

6 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
7 Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of twenty-six thousand dollars
8 (\$26,000) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year to be used for the following purposes:

- 9 (1) To make available free-of-charge to the general public on its Internet Web site
10 printable publications, in a format that can be downloaded, containing
11 medically accurate information regarding bone marrow donation and
12 transplantation that is sufficient to allow an individual to make an informed
13 decision about whether to participate in a local or national bone marrow
14 donation registry.
- 15 (2) To raise public awareness about bone marrow donation and transplantation.
- 16 (3) To encourage North Carolina residents to consider joining a bone marrow
17 donation registry.

18 **SECTION 4.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
19 Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand
20 dollars (\$250,000) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year to be used exclusively to implement a bone
21 marrow donation pilot program designed to encourage North Carolina residents to register for
22 the National Marrow Donor Program's "Be the Match Registry."

23 **SECTION 4.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration
24 with the Department of Motor Vehicles, shall establish two program sites to implement the pilot
25 program, one of which shall be a drivers license office in Edgecombe County and the other of
26 which shall be a drivers license office in Wake County. From funds appropriated for the pilot
27 program for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, each site shall be awarded one hundred twenty-five
28 thousand dollars (\$125,000) to be used for the following purposes:

- 29 (1) To purchase monitors to broadcast public service announcements and
30 educational videos.
- 31 (2) To purchase written literature concerning marrow donation for distribution to
32 the public.
- 33 (3) Other operational costs of the program.

34 **SECTION 4.(c)** By February 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services
35 shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the
36 Fiscal Research Division on the status of the pilot program authorized by subsection (b) of this
37 section. By May 1, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide a final
38 report of the program authorized by subsection (b) of this section to the Joint Legislative
39 Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division.

40 **SECTION 5.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act become effective July 1, 2018. The
41 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.