

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

S

1

SENATE BILL 899

Short Title: Funds for Voc. Rehab Services.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Nesbitt.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

March 23, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
3 HUMAN SERVICES TO PROVIDE LONG-TERM VOCATIONAL SUPPORT
4 SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND DEVELOPMENTAL
5 DISABILITIES.

6 Whereas, persons with mental illness and developmental disabilities should
7 have the dignity and responsibility conferred by work; and

8 Whereas, State law requires that best practice is the standard for reform of the
9 mental health system; and

10 Whereas, long-term vocational support services are recognized as a best
11 practice for persons with severe disabilities; Now, therefore,

12 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

13 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
14 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental
15 Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000)
16 for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) for the
17 2006-2007 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to provide long-term vocational
18 support services to persons with mental illness and developmental disabilities.

19 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.