

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE DRH45016-LN-20A (2/10)

Short Title: Osteoporosis Education Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, Clary, McAllister, and L. Johnson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR OSTEOPOROSIS AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year and the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to implement the following recommendations of the Osteoporosis Prevention Task Force:

- (1) Increase public awareness and education about osteoporosis, its impact, the importance of early diagnosis and appropriate management, and effective prevention strategies.
- (2) Increase osteoporosis education and outreach to diverse population groups in North Carolina.
- (3) Increase health and human services professionals' understanding of osteoporosis, its impact, and the importance and skill required for early diagnosis, appropriate management, and effective treatment strategies.
- (4) Provide access to knowledge on the prevalence, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of osteoporosis.
- (5) Improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention abilities of health and human services professionals.
- (6) Reduce barriers to diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of osteoporosis for all North Carolina citizens.
- (7) Monitor the burden of illness and progress toward preventing osteoporosis in North Carolina citizens.

1 (8) Evaluate education and awareness as well as efforts to improve
2 diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of osteoporosis.

3 **SECTION 1.(b)** It is the intent of the General Assembly that funds for
4 osteoporosis awareness and education be included in the continuation budget. Funds
5 appropriated in this section shall also be used to establish two positions to implement
6 this program.

7 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.