

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 2337

Short Title: Osteoporosis Education Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, Alexander, Walend (Primary Sponsors); England, Faison, Glazier, Harrison, McLawhorn, Parmon, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 21, 2008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT OSTEOPOROSIS
EDUCATION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, osteoporosis is a disease characterized by thinning bones, leading to bone fragility and increased risk of fractures of the spine, hip, and wrist; and

Whereas, osteoporosis progresses typically undiagnosed until a bone fractures, and, once this occurs, osteoporosis is already so advanced that there is a high risk of additional fractures; and

Whereas, osteoporosis has no cure, and, therefore, the key is to prevent it or at least treat it early on to significantly reduce its associated morbidity, mortality, and health care costs; and

Whereas, osteoporosis is a public health problem threatening the health and quality of life of more than 1.27 million North Carolinians age 50 and older; and

Whereas, in North Carolina it is estimated that at least \$455 million were spent in 2000 in medical costs for people with at least 34,355 osteoporotic fractures, and this cost is expected to increase to \$797 million for 60,547 fractures by 2025; and

Whereas, one of two women and one of eight men over age 50 will suffer at least one osteoporotic fracture; and

Whereas, health care providers and citizens of North Carolina lack adequate knowledge in the prevention, detection, and treatment of osteoporosis; and

Whereas, educating the health professionals and the public can lead to prevention altogether and early diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis, and lessen associated costs; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North Carolina Osteoporosis Foundation, a nonprofit organization, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to fund Osteoporosis Education in North Carolina.

1

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2008.