GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

S   1

SENATE BILL 917*

Short Title:	Cancer Patient Assistance. (Public)
Sponsors:	Senators Dorsett; Clodfelter, Dannelly, Graham, and Vaughan.
Referred to:	Health Care.

March 26, 2009

1   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

3   DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TO ASSIST CANCER PATIENTS WITH THE

4   MANAGEMENT OF THE DISEASE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6   **SECTION 1.** Part 1 of Article 7 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is

7 amended by adding the following new section to read:

8 "**§ 130A-216. Cancer patient navigation program.**

9   The Department shall establish a cancer patient navigation pilot program. The purpose of

10 the program shall be to provide education about and assistance with the management of cancer.

11 At a minimum, the program shall do the following:

12   (1)   Initially serve breast and cervical cancer patients statewide with the intent of

13   future expansion to all other cancer types.

14   (2)   Employ a multidisciplinary team approach to assist cancer patients in

15   identifying and gaining access to available health care, financial and legal

16   assistance, transportation, psychological support, and other related issues.

17   (3)   Work with an existing cancer service agency that is not affiliated with a

18   particular health care institution so that program clients may have access to

19   any cancer health care facility in the State."

20   **SECTION 2.** The Department may adopt rules necessary to carry out the

21 provisions of this act. The Department shall begin initial implementation of the statewide pilot

22 program established under Section 1 of this act in Guilford and Mecklenburg Counties.

23   **SECTION 3.** The Department shall report its progress on the implementation of

24 this program to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and

25 Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the

26 Fiscal Research Division not later than May 1, 2010.

27   **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.