A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND UNDER THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BENEFITS IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) The State Controller shall transfer the sum of thirteen million two hundred thousand dollars ($13,200,000) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year from the Coronavirus Relief Reserve established under Section 2.1 of S.L. 2020-4 to the Coronavirus Relief Fund under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020, P.L. 116-136, established in Section 2.2 of that act.

SECTION 1.(b) There is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) the sum of thirteen million two hundred thousand dollars ($13,200,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to provide additional assistance to eligible recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Department shall allocate up to two million two hundred thousand dollars ($2,200,000) per month for payments to eligible recipients. Each eligible recipient shall receive a monthly payment of one hundred ninety-three dollars ($193.00) for up to six months pursuant to this section.

SECTION 1.(c) The funds provided under this section shall be used for the purposes described in this section and the requirements and limitations set forth in the CARES Act.

SECTION 2. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide a report to the House Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division by March 1, 2021, detailing the use of funds allocated under this act.

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2020, and applies retroactively to assistance provided on or after March 1, 2020, and expires December 30, 2020.