

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 1229
May 27, 2020
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40639-RBza-31A

Short Title: UI Program Integrity/Temp. ABAWD Time Waivers. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Howard.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
3 TO STRENGTHEN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM INTEGRITY
4 DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND ALLOWING THE DEPARTMENT
5 OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO SEEK A TEMPORARY WAIVER FROM
6 THE TIME LIMITS FOR ABLE-BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS
7 PARTICIPATING IN THE FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES PROGRAM IN
8 RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR
9 THAT PURPOSE.

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.(a)** The State Controller shall transfer the sum of two million dollars
12 (\$2,000,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year from the Coronavirus Relief Reserve created in
13 Section 2.1 of S.L. 2020-4 to the General Fund, Coronavirus Relief Fund, established in Section
14 2.2 of that act.

15 **SECTION 1.(b)** There is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the
16 Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security (DES), the sum of two million
17 dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to be used to contract with the Government
18 Data Analytics Center (GDAC), as follows:

- 19 (1) To enhance existing unemployment insurance (UI) fraud and compliance
20 alerting capability to prevent and detect cybersecurity attacks on DES
21 information technology assets and resources during the pandemic.
- 22 (2) To provide DES with COVID-19 related program fraud detection analytics
23 and information reporting.
- 24 (3) To provide pandemic UI assistance documentation analysis.
- 25 (4) To develop modeling for economic impact and recovery analysis.

26 **SECTION 1.(c)** These funds shall be expended only as allowed under the federal
27 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, P.L. 116-136.

28 **SECTION 2.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 108A-51.1, the Department of Health and
29 Human Services may seek a temporary waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
30 for time limits established by federal law for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD)
31 participating in the Food and Nutrition Services Program in this State.

32 **SECTION 2.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
33 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars
34 (\$25,000) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to cover increased administrative costs for the Food and
35 Nutrition Services Program in accordance with this section.



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1 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2020, and expires one
2 year from the effective date. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.