

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 976

Short Title: Catawba Welfare Reform Pilot. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Berry; Brawley, Buchanan, Howard, Kiser, Starnes, and Thompson.

Referred to: Welfare Reform, if favorable, Appropriations.

April 17, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A WELFARE REFORM PILOT PROGRAM IN
2 CATAWBA COUNTY.
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Department of
6 Human Resources shall designate Catawba County as a pilot county for the purpose of
7 conducting a demonstration welfare reform program for persons and families in Catawba
8 County receiving public assistance. Immediately upon the ratification of this act, the
9 Department shall seek all federal waivers necessary to allow this demonstration program.
10 To the extent that this act or the program established pursuant to it conflicts with any State
11 law, the program supersedes that law.

12 Section 2. Catawba County shall develop and implement a program that
13 provides assistance to needy families with, or expecting, children and provides parents
14 with job preparation, work, and support services to enable them to leave welfare and
15 become self-sufficient. Catawba County shall develop and implement the program in such a
16 way to ensure that the recipients' due process and equal protection rights are guaranteed.

17 Section 3. This act shall be funded by Catawba County using the federal and
18 State funding allocated to Catawba County for public assistance.

19 Section 4. The Department of Human Resources shall evaluate Catawba
20 County's Welfare Reform Demonstration Project and report to the General Assembly on
21 or before March 1, 1999.

22 Section 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997, and expires on July 1,
23 1999.