

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 2044*

Short Title: Medicaid Drug Reimbursement Changes. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Purcell.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

May 26, 2006

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
2 SERVICES, DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE, TO DETERMINE THE
3 IMPACT OF THE FEDERAL DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2005 ON THE
4 PAYMENT FOR GENERIC DRUGS.
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of
8 Medical Assistance, shall, not later than January 1, 2007, determine the impact of the
9 Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 on the payment for generic drugs under the Medicaid
10 Program and, if necessary, shall pay, from funds appropriated for the Medicaid program
11 for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, a supplemental professional services fee in order to
12 maintain the amount of reimbursement for generic drugs as provided for in the Deficit
13 Reduction Act of 2005.

14 **SECTION 2.** Not later than January 1, 2007, the Department of Health and
15 Human Services shall conduct a survey of pharmacy providers participating in the
16 Medicaid program to determine the cost of dispensing a Medicaid prescription in North
17 Carolina. In place of the survey, the Department of Health and Human Services may
18 use a recently conducted national survey of a statistically relevant sample of
19 pharmacies. The Department shall report its findings to the Senate Appropriations
20 Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives
21 Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research
22 Division not later than March 1, 2007.

23 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
24 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, the sum of
25 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. These funds shall
26 be used for a study by the Division of the actual cost to pharmacies of dispensing
27 prescription drugs pursuant to the Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

28 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2006.