

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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HOUSE BILL 1368*

Short Title: Safe Haven Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Dickson, Glazier (Primary Sponsors); Faison, Fisher, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 10, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO ESTABLISH SAFE HAVEN
2 SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAMS STATEWIDE.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Judicial
5 Department the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year
6 and the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to fund
7 safe haven supervised visitation programs statewide. The Administrative Office of the
8 Courts, in consultation with the Conference of District Court Judges, shall select
9 10 programs to receive the funding beginning January 1, 2008, and an additional 10
11 programs to receive funding beginning July 1, 2008.

12 These programs provide families with safe, neutral, and family-friendly
13 environments for the exchange and visitation with children by parents who are separated
14 and need temporary assistance in arranging and securing visitation plans. The goal of
15 the programs is to offer assistance to parents in maintaining contact with their children
16 and to assist the court by providing supervised visitation and safe exchanges when the
17 court feels that visitation and exchange is in the best interest of both the parents and the
18 children.

19 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.