

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE DRS75002-LN-36\* (1/17)**

Short Title: Justus-Warren Task Force Recommendations. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Purcell.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE  
3 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STROKE ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE  
4 JUSTUS-WARREN HEART DISEASE AND STROKE PREVENTION TASK  
5 FORCE.

6       Whereas, the Stroke Advisory Council was established by the Justus-Warren  
7 Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force to advise the Task Force regarding the  
8 development of a statewide system of stroke care; and

9       Whereas, North Carolina is one of only four states funded by the Centers for  
10 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to operate a stroke registry within the Paul  
11 Coverdell National Stroke Registry initiative; and

12       Whereas, the North Carolina Collaborative Stroke Registry has received  
13 commendations from the CDC for stroke care performance measures and the sustained  
14 improvement in quality that has been achieved by participating NC registry hospitals;  
15 and

16       Whereas, monitoring care for stroke patients is an essential component of any  
17 system of care in this State; and

18       Whereas, timely and appropriate stroke treatment is essential to improving  
19 stroke patient outcomes; and

20       Whereas, it is critical to engage community groups in high need areas to  
21 assist in disseminating and reinforcing awareness messages and materials; Now,  
22 therefore,

23 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

24       **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly supports the recommendations of the  
25 Stroke Advisory Council, as approved by the Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke  
26 Prevention Task Force. To this end, certain of the Stroke Advisory Council's

1 Preliminary Findings and Recommendations for a NC System of Stroke Care, January,  
2 2007, shall be carried out as follows:

3 (1) The Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force  
4 shall work with health care providers across the State to establish a  
5 system of regionally distributed and locally determined stroke care  
6 networks for the State.

7 (2) The Stroke Advisory Council shall include in its comprehensive plan  
8 for 2008 a process for identifying and disseminating information about  
9 Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations  
10 (JCAHO) certified primary stroke centers in order to assist in the  
11 configuration and operation of regional systems of stroke care.

12 **SECTION 2.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
13 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of four  
14 hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four  
15 hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall  
16 be used to match existing federal funds for the NC Collaborative Stroke Registry to  
17 increase North Carolina hospital participation in the registry, particularly those hospitals  
18 in high stroke/low resource areas of the State.

19 **SECTION 2.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
20 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of one  
21 hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of  
22 one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These  
23 funds shall be allocated to the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Branch to contract  
24 with Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to work with the North Carolina  
25 Collaborative Stroke Registry to develop and carry out professional workforce  
26 development, training, and communications initiatives among hospitals, emergency  
27 medical services responders, 911 operators, and other stakeholders.

28 **SECTION 2.(c)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
29 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of three  
30 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of three  
31 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall  
32 be allocated to the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Branch for the development and  
33 implementation of public awareness campaigns and communication strategies on stroke  
34 signs and symptoms and the importance of immediate response.

35 **SECTION 2.(d)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
36 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of ten  
37 thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of ten thousand  
38 dollars (\$10,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated to the  
39 Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Branch to conduct a follow-up survey and gap  
40 analysis designed to provide a current assessment of stroke prevention and treatment  
41 services in the State. The purpose of these funds is to assist in the development of a  
42 comprehensive stroke care system plan.

43 **SECTION 2.(e)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
44 Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force the sum of fifty

1 thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of fifty thousand  
2 dollars (\$50,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated for  
3 operations of the Stroke Advisory Council.

4 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2007. The  
5 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.