

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**HOUSE BILL 1592**

Short Title: Osteoporosis Education Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, M. Alexander, Insko, England (Primary Sponsors);  
Hughes and Wainwright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

May 6, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO SUPPORT OSTEOPOROSIS EDUCATION IN  
3 NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, osteoporosis is a disease characterized by thinning bones, leading to bone  
5 fragility and increased risk of fractures of the spine, hip, and wrist; and

6 Whereas, osteoporosis progresses typically undiagnosed until a bone fractures, and  
7 once this occurs, osteoporosis is already so advanced that there is a high risk of additional  
8 fractures; and

9 Whereas, osteoporosis has no cure, and, therefore the key is to prevent it or at least  
10 treat it early on to significantly reduce its associated morbidity, mortality, and health care costs;  
11 and

12 Whereas, osteoporosis is a public health problem threatening the health and quality  
13 of life of more than 1.27 million North Carolinians age 50 and older; and

14 Whereas, in North Carolina it is estimated that at least \$455 million were spent in  
15 2000 in medical costs for people with at least 34,355 osteoporotic fractures, and this cost is  
16 expected to increase to \$797 million for 60,547 fractures by 2025; and

17 Whereas, one of two women and one of eight men over age 50 will suffer at least  
18 one osteoporotic fracture; and

19 Whereas, health care providers and citizens of North Carolina lack adequate  
20 knowledge in the prevention, detection, and treatment of osteoporosis; and

21 Whereas, educating the health professionals and the public can lead to prevention  
22 altogether and early diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and lessen associated costs; Now,  
23 therefore,

24 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

25 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North Carolina  
26 Osteoporosis Foundation, a nonprofit organization, the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars  
27 (\$75,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year and the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000)  
28 for the 2010-2011 fiscal year to fund osteoporosis education in North Carolina.

29 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

