

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1991**

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**HOUSE BILL 1599\***

Short Title: State Veterans Home.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Hurley; Albertson, Barbee, Beall, Beard, Black, Bowman, Brown, Church, N.J. Crawford, Culp, Dawkins, DeVane, Dockham, Esposito, Ethridge, Gardner, Gottovi, Grady, Hege, Hightower, Howard, H. Hunter, Jordan, Justus, Kahl, Kerr, Lilley, Lineberry, Luebke, McAllister, McLawhorn, Mavretic, Mercer, Miller, Oldham, Privette, Ramsey, Redwine, Russell, Smith, Stamey, Stewart, Tallent, Wainwright, Warner, Wicker, and Wood.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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June 4, 1992

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TO  
3 CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE A STATE VETERANS HOME  
4 AND TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO BE THE  
5 CONTACT POINT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STATE VETERANS  
6 HOME.

7       Whereas, there are more than 679,100 veterans in North Carolina, of whom  
8 more than 182,000 are 65 years of age or older, with the percentage of older veterans  
9 projected to grow significantly in the future; and

10       Whereas, the General Assembly authorized an independent study, the  
11 Veterans Home Study Commission, to determine the feasibility of constructing a State  
12 Veterans Home which, after due consideration, has determined that the construction of  
13 the home is not only feasible but also necessary because of the aging veteran  
14 population; and

15       Whereas, a consultant's report commissioned by the Veterans Home Study  
16 Commission has estimated that the construction cost of a 240 domiciliary and skilled  
17 nursing care bed State Veterans Home on a site adjacent to the Fayetteville VA Medical  
18 Center on land donated by the Veterans Administration, would be approximately  
19 \$17,000,000, of which 65% would be provided by the federal government; and

1           Whereas, the costs of maintaining and operating the State Veterans Home  
2 would be approximately \$7,000,000 per year, most of which would be recouped from  
3 various sources available to the aged and infirmed residents of the home, such as  
4 Medicaid, Medicare, and other veterans health benefits; and

5           Whereas, North Carolina is one of only eight states that does not provide a  
6 State Veterans Home for the aged veterans of the State; Now, therefore,  
7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8           Section 1. The State of North Carolina shall construct, maintain, and operate  
9 a State Veterans Home for the aged and infirmed veterans of this State. The Division of  
10 Veterans Affairs, Department of Administration, shall be the contact agency for seeking  
11 and obtaining funding from the Veterans Administration for the construction of the  
12 Veterans Home as outlined in the Veterans Home Feasibility Study commissioned by  
13 the Veterans Home Study Commission.

14           Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of  
15 Veterans Affairs, Department of Administration, the sum of seven million five hundred  
16 thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) for the 1992-93 fiscal year to provide the State  
17 participation in the cost of the construction of a State Veterans Home as outlined in the  
18 report of the Veterans Home Study Commission, including preliminary surveys and  
19 feasibility studies, and to provide additional staffing in the Division of Veterans Affairs  
20 related to the construction and management of the State Veterans Home.

21           Sec. 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1992.