

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1993**

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**HOUSE BILL 1249**

Short Title: Child/Adolescent Mentoring Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives H. Hunter; Barnes, D. Brown, Burton, Colton, Hackney, Hensley, Jeffus, Kuczmariski, McCrary, Michaux, B. Miller, Nesbitt, Oldham, and Wainwright.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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May 5, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE  
3 COORDINATED CHILD AND ADOLESCENT ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG  
4 MENTORING INITIATIVES.

5       Whereas, each child and adolescent are individuals who have social,  
6 emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, educational, and vocational needs that are  
7 interrelated; and

8       Whereas, each child and adolescent have ethnic background, cultural  
9 heritage, and gender identity that should be respected and responded to sensitively and  
10 appropriately; and

11       Whereas, each child and adolescent need the involvement and support of  
12 parents and family, caregivers, and other concerned adults; and

13       Whereas, children, adolescents, and their families respond to the values of  
14 their communities, and these communities should promote positive values and  
15 meaningful opportunities to support children, adolescents, and their families in  
16 achieving a positive and nurturing home environment; and

17       Whereas, substance abuse education and comprehensive primary prevention  
18 services are effective in preventing the use of alcohol and other drugs, in delaying the  
19 onset of substance abuse, and in reducing the incidence of substance abuse problems  
20 among children, adolescents, and their families; and

21       Whereas, broad-based groups within communities, including youth-serving  
22 organizations, churches, businesses, civic clubs, and other service organizations should

1 be encouraged to participate in efforts to prevent alcohol and other drug use among  
2 children and adolescents; and

3           Whereas, there is a need for a more comprehensive, coordinated statewide  
4 approach to mentoring projects for children and adolescents specific to alcohol and  
5 other drug prevention programming; Now, therefore,  
6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7           Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
8 Human Resources, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and  
9 Substance Abuse Services, the sum of four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000)  
10 for the 1993-94 fiscal year and five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 1994-  
11 95 fiscal year, to:

- 12           (1) Develop, promote, and implement child and adolescent alcohol and  
13 other drug abuse prevention mentoring programs to identified and  
14 targeted youth populations;
- 15           (2) Conduct research and data collection that provide information on  
16 effective mentoring initiatives and the impact of alcohol and other  
17 drug prevention efforts, and disseminate pertinent facts and research to  
18 public officials, other decision makers, and to professionals and  
19 volunteers working with alcohol and other drug mentoring programs  
20 with, or on behalf of, children and adolescents in at-risk categories for  
21 alcohol and other drug abuse;
- 22           (3) Provide services, training programs, and resources to identified  
23 mentoring projects in developing effective curricula and develop a  
24 training institute to train mentors on how to effectively implement the  
25 alcohol and other drug prevention curricula for the greatest impact and  
26 provide measures by which parents can effectively and appropriately  
27 be involved;
- 28           (4) Initiate a statewide media campaign to promote mentoring programs as  
29 a viable alcohol and other drug prevention element to project a  
30 healthy, drug-free lifestyle;
- 31           (5) Provide funds for eight to twelve eligible area programs and contract  
32 agencies within identified areas of the State and make available not  
33 less than thirty-five percent (35%) of total grant funds to provide  
34 opportunity grants to subgrantees such as incorporated nonprofit  
35 fraternal organizations, churches, neighborhood associations, and other  
36 groups. Designated subgrantees may receive up to ten thousand  
37 dollars (\$10,000) per year for the support of such mentoring project  
38 expenses as stipends and related program expenses;
- 39           (6) Funds shall be made available through a Request for Proposals (RFP),  
40 with grants awarded on a competitive basis to eligible area programs  
41 and contract agencies. Applicants may request grants of up to seventy-  
42 five thousand dollars (\$75,000) per year for up to three fiscal years;  
43 and

1 (7) In the first year of implementation, the Department shall select no less  
2 than 10 community mentoring projects for grants of up to seventy-five  
3 thousand dollars (\$75,000) each. In the second year the Department  
4 shall award no less than 12 grants up to seventy-five thousand dollars  
5 (\$75,000) each

6 Sec. 2. In administering these funds, the Department of Human Resources  
7 shall:

8 (1) Require applicants to conduct an analysis of current programs within a  
9 county to avoid duplication efforts;

10 (2) Direct local programs to undertake an annual evaluation of the impact  
11 and outcome of the program;

12 (3) Allow nonprofit organizations within a county to be eligible to apply  
13 for a mentoring program; and

14 (4) Expand the State-level oversight by establishing an interdepartmental  
15 advisory group.

16 Sec. 3. Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Human  
17 Resources for the 1993-94 fiscal year and the 1994-95 fiscal year, the sum of one  
18 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) each fiscal year shall be used for the overall  
19 evaluation and on-going support of the mentoring programs as mandated by the General  
20 Assembly. The Department shall develop appropriate outcome and impact measures  
21 and may require the return of funds from any programs that do not meet their  
22 performance standards. As of the effective date of this act, any project selected for  
23 funding shall include a line item in the proposed budget for the evaluation of the  
24 individual project.

25 Sec. 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.