

Whereas, there exists the necessity for extrication utilizing a hovering helicopter winching process to effect an airborne high level rescue effort and such capability currently exists only with the North Carolina National Guard; and

Whereas, pursuant to G.S. 166A-4(3), the N.C. Division of Emergency Management coordinates the activities of all agencies for emergency management within the State, including planning, organizing, staffing, equipping, training, testing, and the activation of emergency management programs; and

Whereas, the Division of Emergency Management coordinates requests for the use of North Carolina National Guard resources during an emergency and provides reimbursement to the Guard for such assistance; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Airborne High Level Rescue and Extrication Program will greatly reduce the length of time for rescue efforts for injured persons; and

Whereas, it is the mission and goal of the North Carolina Airborne High Level Rescue and Extrication Program to provide rescue to the injured with the least possible risk of danger to the injured or to the rescue personnel; and

Whereas, North Carolina recognizes the need for an air-rescue helicopter program to preserve life and assist the injured who may be located in remote areas far from necessary medical assistance; Now, therefore,

1 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

2 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
3 Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, the sum of two
4 hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$225,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year to establish
5 and support the North Carolina Airborne High Level Rescue and Extrication Program.

6 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.