

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 1309

Short Title: Telecommunications Skills Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hunter, Fitch, Blue; Adams, Brubaker, Esposito, Hensley, and Wright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 22, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO PROVIDE CHILDREN IN LOW-WEALTH
COUNTIES WITH COMPUTER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SKILLS.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Commerce the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the 1999-2000 fiscal year to be allocated to tier one counties, as defined in G.S. 105-129.3, municipalities, libraries, and nonprofit corporations to develop innovative programs that provide children and their parents exposure to geography, economics, politics, culture, language, and telecommunications. Counties are encouraged to work with local school systems, community colleges, and universities, or form consortia, and to use these resources to stimulate federal and foundation grants for operation. These funds shall be used to ensure that children in low-wealth communities will be provided computer and telecommunications skills and orientation necessary to compete in a global economy.

Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1999.