

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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HOUSE DRH70140-LN-76* (3/12)

Short Title: Funds for Interpreter Svces/Local Health Dept. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Alexander.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR INTERPRETER SERVICES IN LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year and the sum of three million two hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to hire qualified interpreters based in local health departments in the State. In addition, these funds may be used by local health departments to provide incentives to recruit and hire bilingual staff. The Department shall allocate these funds based on funding criteria as recommended by the State Health Director in conjunction with the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors and the Department of Health and Human Services Hispanic Health Task Force.

SECTION 2. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services in Section 1 of this act, not more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) may be used to provide training and continuing education sessions for interpreters.

SECTION 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.