

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2005**

**H**

**1**

**HOUSE BILL 383**

Short Title: Patient Care Resource Act. (Public)

---

Sponsors: Representatives Nye, England (Primary Sponsors); Faison, Glazier, and McLawhorn.

---

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

---

February 24, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO PROVIDE GRANTS OR LOW-INTEREST  
2 LOANS TO ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS TO ADDRESS CRITICAL NEEDS.

3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the  
5 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health, the sum of ten  
6 million dollars (\$10,000,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. These funds shall be used  
7 to establish and implement the Patient Care Resource Fund ("Fund") in the Office of  
8 Rural Health. The Department may allocate funds from the Fund to eligible hospitals  
9 that are approved by the Office of Rural Health for grants or low-interest loans. Funds  
10 may be used by grant or loan recipients to offset operational losses due to increases in  
11 uncompensated care or to address other critical needs as determined by the Department.  
12 The Office of Rural Health shall adopt guidelines establishing eligibility and other  
13 requirements for grants and low-interest loans and determining other critical needs for  
14 which funds may be allocated.  
15

16 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.