

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 499

Short Title: Funds for Interpreter Services. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Purcell; Dannelly, Malone, and Rand.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

March 15, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR INTERPRETER SERVICES IN LOCAL
2 HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
6 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of three
7 million dollars (\$3,000,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of three million
8 two hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. These funds
9 shall be used to hire qualified interpreters based in local health departments in the State.
10 In addition, these funds may be used by local health departments to provide incentives
11 to recruit and hire bilingual providers. The Department shall allocate these funds to
12 local health departments based on funding criteria as recommended by the State Health
13 Director in conjunction with the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
14 and the Department of Health and Human Services Hispanic Health Task Force.

15 **SECTION 2.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Health and
16 Human Services in Section 1 of this act, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars
17 (\$100,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of one hundred seventy-five
18 thousand dollars (\$175,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year shall be used to provide
19 training and continuing education sessions for interpreters.

20 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.