

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007**

**S**

**1**

**SENATE BILL 958**

Short Title: Rural Physicians Incentive Funds. (Public)

---

Sponsors: Senators Clodfelter; and Rand.

---

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

---

March 20, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO CREATE AND PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE RURAL OBSTETRICAL  
2 AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CARE INCENTIVE FUND.  
3

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 the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000)  
7 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to provide funds for the Rural  
8 Obstetrical and Emergency Department Care Incentive Fund, as established in Section 2  
9 of this act.

10 **SECTION 2.** The Rural Obstetrical and Emergency Department Care  
11 Incentive Fund is established within the Department of Health and Human Services,  
12 Office of Rural Health, and shall be used to make grants to physicians who are  
13 practicing obstetrics, or providing emergency department services, in rural and  
14 underserved areas of the State and are adversely affected by the high cost of liability  
15 insurance. The grants shall be used solely for the purpose of subsidizing in whole or in  
16 part the costs associated with obtaining or maintaining liability insurance for physicians  
17 in rural and underserved health care manpower shortage areas of the State as defined by  
18 the Office of Rural Health. The Office of Rural Health shall establish guidelines for  
19 administering grant funds.

20 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.