

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE
Apr 21, 2026
S.B. 780
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS35348-NLa-129

Short Title: Modernize Medicaid Primary Care Rates. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Adcock, Burgin, and Corbin (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE MEDICAID PRIMARY CARE RATES EQUIVALENT TO MEDICARE.

3 Whereas, primary care plays an indispensable role within the healthcare delivery
4 system and is currently under resourced and facing significant strain; and

5 Whereas, there is a need to adequately resource primary care services for rural and
6 urban regions, as well as underserved communities; and

7 Whereas, current Medicaid rates for primary care services in North Carolina are less
8 than Medicare; and

9 Whereas, in order to improve overall health and access to quality care, maintain
10 provider participation in Medicaid, and prevent future health costs and conditions caused by
11 overall health problems, it is in the best interests of the State to raise Medicaid reimbursement
12 rates paid to primary care providers to rates that are comparable with the Medicare rates; Now,
13 therefore,

14 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

15 **SECTION 1.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
16 Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits, the sum of forty-eight million dollars
17 (\$48,000,000) in recurring funds and associated receipts beginning with the 2026-2027 fiscal
18 year to be used to increase the Medicaid rates paid for primary care services.

19 **SECTION 1.(b)** The rate increases required by this section shall be implemented as
20 soon as practicable after July 1, 2026, and shall apply to primary care services as defined by the
21 North Carolina Primary Care Payment Reform Task Force in its April 17, 2024, report to the
22 North Carolina General Assembly.

23 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2026.

