January 31, 2007

**S 51. FUNDS FOR HOUSING OPTIONS FOR MENTALLY ILL.** Filed 1/31/07. *TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO INCREASE AVAILABILITY OF HOUSING OPTIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINIANS WITH DISABILITIES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.* Appropriates \$1,506,600 for 2007-08 and \$3,013,200 for 2008-09 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to be used to increase the availability of housing options for North Carolinians with disabilities by providing rental assistance, with priority given to persons transitioning out of State psychiatric hospitals and long-term care facilities. Requires collaboration between DHHS and the NC Housing Finance Agency (NCHFA) to determine the most efficient use of funds. Requires DHHS and NCHFA to submit an interim report to the Study Commission on Aging by September 1, 2008, and a final report by September 1, 2009. Effective July 1, 2007. **Intro. by Dorsett.**APPROP, STUDY