

March 10, 2009

S 517. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FUNDS. Filed 3/10/09. *TO PROVIDE URGENT PRIORITY FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.*

Appropriates \$3 million for 2009-10 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, to be allocated as follows: (1) \$1 million for individuals with mental illness who are also deaf, with \$200,000 allocated for increasing the availability of interpreting services, \$480,000 allocated for sign language instruction, prevention materials, staff training, and broadband connections for video relay services, and \$320,000 allocated for a 6-bed group home to serve deaf adults in Wake County as a step down from the inpatient unit at Broughton Hospital; (2) \$1 million for peer support positions in drop-in centers; (3) \$500,000 to establish a pilot for Center for Excellence

in conjunction with the University and Community College systems to promote evidence based/best practice models and methods of mental health/mental illness treatment; and (4) \$500,000 for jail diversion programs for individuals with mental illness. Effective July 1, 2009.

Intro. by Goss.

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