

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 491
Mar 27, 2019
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30211-LGa-89B

Short Title: WF Baptist Health Regional Autopsy Ctr Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lambeth, Conrad, Montgomery, and Hardister (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A NEW WAKE FOREST BAPTIST HEALTH
3 REGIONAL AUTOPSY CENTER IN WINSTON-SALEM.

4 Whereas, Wake Forest Baptist Health (WFBH) Regional Autopsy Center is currently
5 performing autopsies in space that is inadequate to facilitate current and future estimated volume,
6 presents significant operational challenges, and is not compliant with National Association of
7 Medical Examiners autopsy standards; and

8 Whereas, in 2018, the WFBH Regional Autopsy Center performed 1,226 postmortem
9 examinations. This number is expected to increase due to the anticipated growth in population
10 and deaths resulting from the opioid epidemic; and

11 Whereas, in order to remedy this situation, plans have been made to construct a new
12 WFBH Regional Autopsy Center on the Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Clarkson Campus,
13 located in Winston-Salem; and

14 Whereas, the Regional Autopsy Center will provide approximately 1,760 medicolegal
15 autopsies per year for the 32 counties in western North Carolina which it serves and provide eight
16 autopsy work stations, refrigerated storage for 50 bodies, and appropriate support facilities,
17 equipment rooms, and building support; Now, therefore,
18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Wake Forest
20 University Baptist Medical Center, a nonprofit corporation, the sum of two million nine hundred
21 forty thousand five hundred fifteen dollars (\$2,940,515) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and the
22 sum of fourteen million five hundred sixty-six thousand two hundred twenty dollars
23 (\$14,566,220) for the 2020-2021 fiscal year in nonrecurring funds to help fund the construction
24 of the new Wake Forest Baptist Health Regional Autopsy Center in Winston-Salem.

25 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.



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