

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 1190
May 26, 2020
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30573-MKa-251

Short Title: UNC-TV/At-Home Learning Initiative. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Elmore, Szoka, Clemmons, and Baker (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND TO THE
3 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR PUBLIC MEDIA FOR THE
4 AT-HOME LEARNING INITIATIVE TO EXPAND STUDENT LEARNING
5 EXPERIENCES IN RESPONSE TO THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Transfer of Funds from Reserves to Relief Fund. – The State Controller
8 shall transfer the sum of one million nine hundred thirty-two thousand seven hundred fifty-eight
9 dollars (\$1,932,758) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year from the Coronavirus Relief Reserve
10 established in Section 2.1 of S.L. 2020-4 to the Coronavirus Relief Fund established in Section
11 2.2 of S.L. 2020-4.

12 **SECTION 2.** Appropriation of Funds from Relief Fund. – There is appropriated from
13 the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management the sum of one
14 million nine hundred thirty-two thousand seven hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$1,932,758) in
15 nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to be allocated to the University of North
16 Carolina Center for Public Media (UNC-TV) for the At-Home Learning Initiative (AHL). The
17 AHL is a collaboration between UNC-TV and the Department of Public Instruction providing a
18 three-phase response to the impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on student
19 learning that includes ongoing research and evaluation. Phase one of the AHL distributed existing
20 media content, repurposed the North Carolina Channel, and integrated current UNC-TV main
21 channel programming to provide 41 hours per day of real-time curriculum-informed
22 programming and activities. The funds allocated pursuant to this act shall be used for two
23 additional phases of the AHL as follows:

- 24 (1) The sum of nine hundred seven thousand seven hundred fifty-eight dollars
25 (\$907,758) shall be used in phase two of the AHL to customize the content
26 for all North Carolina students and to meet State educational requirements
27 through remediation blocks and qualifying instruction. During this phase, all
28 programming shall be localized via content featuring North Carolina teachers
29 to personalize the student experience. Continuity and customization shall be
30 particularly important due to the undetermined duration and future impact of
31 COVID-19.
- 32 (2) The sum of one million twenty-five thousand dollars (\$1,025,000) shall be
33 used in phase three of the AHL to fortify all statewide services and broaden
34 the AHL's current focus from K-12 students to workforce development and to
35 assist those desiring new skills necessary in North Carolina's evolving
36 economy. Phase three shall include expanding distance learning initiatives



1 across all technology platforms and into all 100 counties of the State,
2 including the creation and distribution of augmented reality field trips
3 integrating North Carolina destinations and historical events, related teacher
4 training, and additional customized content in collaboration with the
5 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Phase three actions shall focus
6 on fortifying a new model of learning so that it can be employed as a
7 development tool during an uninterrupted school year and as a learning bridge
8 during emergencies. The expansion may also include investigating specialized
9 content for students with specific learning challenges, language barriers, or
10 unique family situations, such as military families.

11 **SECTION 3.** By September 15, 2020, UNC-TV, in collaboration with the
12 Department of Public Instruction, shall report on the progress of the use of the appropriated funds
13 received pursuant to this act to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

14 **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund by this
15 act, funds shall only be used for necessary eligible expenditures incurred during the period that
16 begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020. The funds appropriated by this act
17 shall not revert at the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year but shall remain available to expend until
18 December 30, 2020.

19 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.