

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

FILED SENATE
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PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS15127-MTa-120

Short Title: Solving the Preceptor Crisis. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Adcock, Woodard, and Lee (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE NORTH CAROLINA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS
3 PROGRAM TO STUDY IMPEDIMENTS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF
4 COMMUNITY-BASED PRECEPTORS.

5 Whereas, North Carolina must devise solutions to the healthcare preceptor crisis by
6 first assessing the causes and related environmental factors; Now, therefore,
7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina Area Health Education Centers Program (NC
9 AHEC) shall study (i) the availability of community preceptors in North Carolina and nearby
10 states and (ii) the demand for those preceptors, including factors that influence the supply and
11 barriers that community-based outpatient clinicians face in teaching healthcare professional
12 students. NC AHEC shall provide an interim report with its findings to the Joint Legislative
13 Education Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and
14 Human Services no later than April 1, 2024, and a final report no later than September 1, 2024.
15 NC AHEC shall consult with other healthcare professional organizations and boards, including,
16 but not limited to, the North Carolina Nurses Association, the North Carolina Academy of Family
17 Physicians, the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants, the North Carolina Healthcare
18 Association, the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, the North Carolina
19 Medical Society, the North Carolina Pediatric Society, The University of North Carolina, the
20 North Carolina Board of Nursing, and the North Carolina Medical Board. As part of its study,
21 NC AHEC shall do at least the following:

- 22 (1) Survey other states to identify the best innovative and effective approaches to
23 address preceptor shortages for medical students, nurse practitioner students,
24 physician assistant students, and prelicensure nursing students.
25 (2) Research and report on the current approaches to identifying, engaging,
26 financing, and evaluating clinical training sites and how schools use tuition
27 funding to cover their students' costs related to clinical placements and
28 training. As part of this component of the study, NC AHEC shall consult with
29 the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, the State Board
30 of Community Colleges, and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and
31 Universities.
32 (3) Assess the capacity of North Carolina and nearby states for clinical training
33 sites, in consultation with the North Carolina Healthcare Association
34 (NCHA), the North Carolina Community Health Center Association, and
35 clinically integrated networks, including the following information for North
36 Carolina:



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- 1 a. The number and percentage of independent and health system
- 2 practices that are currently clinical training sites.
- 3 b. The number and percentage of independent and health system
- 4 practices that could become clinical training sites.
- 5 c. The impacts on the efficiency of clinical practices when or if they
- 6 become clinical training sites.

7 **SECTION 2.** Appropriation. – There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
8 Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of two hundred fifty thousand
9 dollars (\$250,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and two hundred fifty
10 thousand dollars (\$250,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to be allocated
11 to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for the North Carolina Area Health Education
12 Centers Program to fund the study required by Section 1 of this act.

13 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2023.