## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2023

Η

## HOUSE BILL 323 PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H323-PCS40235-BC-4

Short Title: (Public) Retain Adult Devel. Voc. Rehab. Programs. Sponsors: Referred to: March 13, 2023 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 2 AN ACT TO RETAIN ADULT DEVELOPMENTAL AND VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS 3 AND COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. 4 Whereas, North Carolina citizens with disabilities are deserving of having the same 5 choice of where, how, and with whom they work and spend their time as other North Carolina 6 citizens; and 7 Whereas, North Carolina Adult Developmental and Vocational Programs (ADVP) 8 and Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP), in partnership with business and industry, are 9 an integral part of their local communities and their economies; and 10 Whereas, programs and employment offered by North Carolina ADVPs and CRPs 11 through competitive integrated employment, ADVP-based and CRP-based manufacturing, or independent work to North Carolina citizens with disabilities provide the opportunity to meet 12 13 new people, gain new skills, and earn the respect, dignity, and ancillary human benefits that come 14 with earning a paycheck and making a significant economic impact on our State's economy; and 15 Whereas, approximately 8,500 citizens with disabilities avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in these ADVP and CRP programs each year and approximately 1,000 16 citizens receive competitive integrated employment service each year; and 17 18 Whereas, the parents, guardians, and caregivers of many of these participants support 19 and attest to the benefits of these programs and the employment provided under them; and 20 Whereas, just like other North Carolina citizens, individuals with disabilities should 21 be free to choose the settings in which they receive services or employment, including programs 22 offered by North Carolina ADVPs and CRPs in competitive integrated employment, 23 ADVP-based and CRP-based manufacturing, or independent work assignment; Now, therefore, 24 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: SECTION 1. The Department of Health and Human Services shall not enact policy 25 that reduces or eliminates services provided at Adult Developmental and Vocational Programs 26 27 (ADVP) or Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP) without (i) fully following procedures 28 regarding stakeholder notification and input and (ii) appropriately funding a robust array of 29 services that reflect choice. 30 SECTION 2. The Department of Health and Human Services shall not permit a 31 reduction in admission to ADVPs and CRPs until current services are appropriately reviewed 32 and any new services are approved through statutory or regulatory processes. 33 SECTION 3. The General Assembly encourages the North Carolina Congressional 34 Delegation to review the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act's rules and definitions, as promulgated by the United States Department of Education, to assess for any negative impact to 35 36 the citizens of North Carolina.



D

1

**SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.