

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 513
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30172-MGa-94

Short Title: Strengthen Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Buansi.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
3 SERVICES, DIVISION OF AGING, TO STRENGTHEN NORTH CAROLINA'S
4 LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM BY FUNDING ADDITIONAL
5 OMBUDSMAN POSITIONS TO MOVE NORTH CAROLINA TOWARDS NATIONAL
6 STANDARDS FOR LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
9 Health and Human Services, Division of Aging, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in
10 recurring funds for each year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium to be allocated and used as
11 follows:

- 12 (1) The sum of one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000) for the
13 2025-2026 fiscal year and the sum of one hundred six thousand seven hundred
14 fifty dollars (\$106,750) for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to support the
15 operational expenses of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, including
16 costs associated with equipment, supplies, and transportation.
- 17 (2) The sum of eight hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$855,000) for the
18 2025-2026 fiscal year and the sum of eight hundred ninety-three thousand two
19 hundred fifty dollars (\$893,250) for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to fund nine
20 additional full-time Regional Ombudsman positions to move North Carolina
21 toward national standards for long-term care ombudsman programs. These
22 nine positions shall be dedicated to the Regional Ombudsman Programs
23 within the Area Agencies on Aging most in need of additional ombudsman
24 support, as determined by the Office of the State Long-Term Care
25 Ombudsman.

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2025.

