

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE BILL 579

Short Title: RSVP Program/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bowman; and Hensley.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 3, 1991

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER
3 PROGRAM (RSVP).

4 Whereas, the growth of the aging population represents one of the greatest
5 transitions of this nation's population; and

6 Whereas, from 1980 to 2000, the 80-year and over population group will
7 increase by one hundred thirty-one percent (131%) and the 65 and over population
8 group will grow by sixty-four percent (64%); and

9 Whereas, currently, North Carolina spends some five times more on
10 institutional care for the elderly than on community-based care; and

11 Whereas, there is a need for more comprehensive State policies that
12 emphasize keeping the older adults at home as long as possible and in keeping these
13 adults valuable, continuing members of the community; and

14 Whereas, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), established in 1971,
15 provides a program that offers the older adults the opportunity to find meaningful ways
16 to contribute their skills and wisdom to help meet the needs of their local communities;
17 and

18 Whereas, there are currently 17 Retired Senior Volunteer Programs in the
19 following 27 counties in North Carolina: Brunswick, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Carteret,
20 Chatham, Columbus, Cumberland, Davie, Durham, Forsyth, Granville, Guilford,
21 Harnett, Henderson, Macon, Madison, Mecklenburg, Moore, New Hanover, Orange,
22 Pender, Surry, Transylvania, Union, Wake, Wayne, and Yadkin; and

23 Whereas, federal funding for this program has not increased since 1975; and

1 Whereas, there is currently no federal funding available to start new Retired
2 Senior Volunteer Programs; and

3 Whereas, there is a great need and demand for the Retired Senior Volunteer
4 Programs from local areas; Now, therefore,
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of
7 Aging, Department of Human Resources, the sum of \$150,000 for the 1991-92 fiscal
8 year to fund Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP), to be allocated as follows:

9 (1) \$100,000 to fund new Retired Senior Volunteer Programs; and

10 (2) \$50,000 to fund existing Retired Senior Volunteer Programs.

11 The program guidelines and standards for new programs shall be in accordance with
12 federal requirements for existing programs. The guidelines for the local matching funds
13 shall also be in accordance with federal guidelines.

14 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1991.