

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017**

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SENATE BILL 644

Short Title: Increase Diversity Among Physician Assistants. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Lowe (Primary Sponsor); Smith-Ingram and Waddell.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 5, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
3 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND
4 IMPLEMENTATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT CURRICULUM AT
5 WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY AND FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF
6 STUDENTS FROM DIVERSE RACIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS IN ORDER
7 TO INCREASE THE RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY OF LICENSED PHYSICIAN
8 ASSISTANTS PRACTICING IN THIS STATE.

9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
11 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of ___ (\$) for the 2017-2018 fiscal
12 year and the sum of ___ (\$) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated to
13 Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) to do the following:

- 14 (1) Develop and implement curriculum at WSSU for a physician assistant
15 degree program.
16 (2) Develop strategies and recruitment methods for encouraging talented
17 students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to enroll at WSSU in
18 the physician assistant degree program developed pursuant to subdivision (1)
19 of this section.

20 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2017.

