

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 1161*

Short Title: Central Registry/MH Beds/Invol. Comm. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Apodaca.

Referred to: Health Care.

March 24, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
2 SERVICES TO DEVELOP A CENTRAL REGISTRY OF AVAILABLE BEDS IN
3 MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES TO ASSIST IN THE PLACEMENT OF
4 INDIVIDUALS INVOLUNTARILY COMMITTED TO THE FACILITIES.
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of
8 Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall
9 develop a central call registry to assist law enforcement officers and others in
10 identifying available beds in mental health facilities for placement of individuals
11 committed the facilities. The registry may be automated but shall be available for
12 successful access by law enforcement officers at all times. In developing the registry,
13 the Department shall ensure that information on bed availability from mental health
14 facilities that serve involuntary committees is transmitted to the registry and updated
15 daily. The Department shall report on the implementation of the registry to the Senate
16 Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of
17 Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the
18 Fiscal Research Division not later than October 1, 2005, and again on March 1, 2006.

19 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.