

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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SENATE BILL 164*

Short Title: Study Housing/Training Mentally Ill in ACH. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Allran, Dannelly, Dorsett, Bingham, Malone; and Jones.

Referred to: Health Care.

February 14, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
2 SERVICES TO STUDY RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING HOUSING
3 INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN THE SAME FACILITY VICINITY
4 AS INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT MENTAL ILLNESS, AND TO RECOMMEND
5 STAFF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR DIRECT CARE WORKERS IN
6 LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE CARE TO
7 RESIDENTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE
8 NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.
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10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of
12 Facility Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, and Division of Mental Health,
13 Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall study rules and
14 regulations in North Carolina and other states regarding the provision of appropriate
15 care and housing of individuals with mental illness in the same facility vicinity with
16 individuals without mental illness and shall make recommendations relating to the
17 housing of these individuals.

18 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division
19 of Facility Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, and Division of Mental
20 Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall study the need
21 for training direct care workers in long-term care facilities to provide appropriate care to
22 facility residents with mental illness and facility residents without mental illness, and
23 shall make recommendations for appropriate training of these workers.

24 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall
25 present its findings and recommendations in response to the studies authorized in
26 subsections (a) and (b) of this section, along with any required statutory or rule changes,
27 to the Study Commission on Aging and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
28 Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services on or before
29 March 1, 2008.

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SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.