

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2019**

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**HOUSE BILL 440**

Short Title: Study/Regional Behavioral Health Center. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blackwell, Torbett, Dobson, and Rogers (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Appropriations, Health and Human Services, if favorable,  
Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 25, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY THROUGH PARTNERS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS CENTER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, to conduct, through Partners Behavioral Health Management, a feasibility study for the establishment of a behavioral health crisis center located in Burke County to serve a broader region, to be determined by the findings of the feasibility study. The study shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:

- (1) A description of all programs and services to be provided at the facility.
- (2) The facility's service area and the demand for service in that area.
- (3) Current provider capacity to meet the demand for service in that area.
- (4) A recommended location for the facility, including the cost to rent, purchase, or construct a facility at the recommended location, along with the cost of any land, buildings, land improvements, or building improvements.
- (5) Start-up costs for the facility and programs offered at the facility, including any necessary training.
- (6) Annual cost to operate the facility, including staff, training, supplies, food, housekeeping, security, maintenance, administration, medications, and information technology.
- (7) Cost to rent or purchase equipment for the facility.
- (8) Anticipated sources of public and private payment for services provided at the facility, including private insurance, Medicaid, State appropriations, patient payments, and other payment sources.
- (9) The estimated amount of recurring and nonrecurring State appropriations necessary to start and sustain the facility.
- (10) Any referral agreements necessary to ensure continuity of patient care.
- (11) An implementation timeline.



1           **SECTION 1.(b)** By February 10, 2020, the Department of Health and Human  
2 Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services,  
3 shall submit a written report of the findings of the feasibility study authorized by subsection (a)  
4 of this section to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services.

5           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.