

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

H

2

HOUSE BILL 480
Committee Substitute Favorable 6/23/97

Short Title: WomenWork Fund.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 10, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH CAROLINA WOMENWORK FUND FOR
2 DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE NORTH
3 CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN, AND TO ESTABLISH AN ADDITIONAL
4 CIVIL ACTION FEE TO BE COLLECTED BY THE COURT IN DIVORCE
5 ACTIONS.
6

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 Section 1. Part 10B of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is
9 amended by adding the following new section to read:

10 "**§ 143B-394.10. North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers.**

11 (a) There is established in the Department of Administration a nonreverting,
12 interest-bearing special revenue fund to be known as the North Carolina WomenWork
13 Fund for Displaced Homemakers. The Fund shall consist of revenue credited to the Fund
14 for the costs imposed by G.S. 7A-305(a2) and any other monies credited to it. The Fund
15 shall be administered by the Council in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter 143 of the
16 General Statutes and shall be used to make grants to programs for displaced homemakers.
17 The Council shall make quarterly grants to each eligible program. Grants shall be
18 awarded according to criteria established by the Council. No more than ten percent
19 (10%) of these funds shall be used for administrative costs by the Council. In order to be

1 eligible to receive grant funds under this section, a displaced homemaker program shall
2 fulfill all of the criteria established by the Council. The Council shall report annually to
3 the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the revenues credited
4 to the Fund, the programs receiving grants from the Fund, the success of those programs,
5 and the costs associated with administering the Fund.

6 (b) The Department, upon recommendations by the Council, shall adopt rules to
7 implement the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced Homemakers."

8 Section 2. G.S. 7A-305 is amended by adding the following new subsection to
9 read:

10 "(a2) In every action for absolute divorce under G.S. 50-6 filed in the district court, a
11 cost of twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be assessed against the person filing the divorce
12 action. Costs collected by the clerk pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted to the
13 State Treasurer for deposit to the North Carolina WomenWork Fund for Displaced
14 Homemakers established under G.S. 143B-394.10. Costs assessed under this subsection
15 shall be in addition to any other costs assessed under this section."

16 Section 3. G.S. 7A-305(c) reads as rewritten:

17 "(c) The clerk of superior court, at the time of the filing of the papers initiating the
18 action or the appeal, shall collect as advance court costs, the ~~facilities fee and General Court~~
19 ~~of Justice fee, facilities fee, General Court of Justice fee, and the divorce fee imposed~~
20 under subsection (a2) of this section, except in suits by an indigent. The clerk shall also
21 collect the fee for discovery procedures under Rule 27(a) and (b) at the time of the filing
22 of the verified petition."

23 Section 4. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997, and applies to actions for
24 absolute divorce under G.S. 50-6 filed on and after that date.