

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

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**HOUSE BILL 1332**

Short Title: Health Care Fundamental Right. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Insko, Alexander, Adams, Wright (Primary Sponsors);  
Luebke and Wainwright.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 12, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO  
RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article I of the North Carolina Constitution is amended by  
adding a new section to read:

**"Sec. 38. Health care.**

Health care is an essential safeguard of human life and dignity, and there is an  
obligation for the State to ensure that every resident is able to realize this fundamental  
right. Not later than July 1, 2004, the General Assembly shall provide by law a plan to  
ensure that by July 1, 2008, every resident of North Carolina has access to appropriate  
health care on a regular basis."

**SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be  
submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2001,  
which election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State.  
Ballots, voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the  
General Statutes. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

Constitutional amendment providing that health care is a fundamental right."

**SECTION 3.** If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of  
the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify  
the amendment to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall enroll the  
amendment so certified among the permanent records of that office.

**SECTION 4.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State  
Board of Elections the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the 2001-2002  
fiscal year to implement this act.

**SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.