

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2021**

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**HOUSE BILL 1102**

Short Title:   New ECU Center for Telemedicine. (Public)

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Sponsors:   Representatives Pickett, Farkas, Humphrey, and Hawkins (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

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

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May 27, 2022

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY TO  
3 ESTABLISH THE CENTER FOR TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTHCARE  
4 ACCESS AND TO EXPAND THE STATEWIDE TELEPSYCHIATRY PROGRAM.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6       **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors  
7 of The University of North Carolina for the 2022-2023 fiscal year the sum of two million dollars  
8 (\$2,000,000) in nonrecurring funds to establish the Center for Telemedicine and Digital  
9 Healthcare Access at East Carolina University (Center) to deliver patient care and service to  
10 unserved and underserved areas, offer education and training for healthcare providers, and  
11 enhance research capacity in areas such as clinical outcomes, social determinants of health,  
12 implementation, science, and technology innovation. These funds shall be used for the following  
13 specific purposes related to establishing the Center:

- 14           (1)   Hiring, contracting, training, and otherwise supporting necessary personnel.  
15           (2)   The purchase or lease of necessary building space, equipment, and  
16                technology.  
17           (3)   School telehealth clinics for students and public school personnel.  
18           (4)   Administrative costs.

19       **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
20 Health and Human Services, Division of Central Management and Support, Office of Rural  
21 Health, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2022-2023  
22 fiscal year to be allocated to the East Carolina University Center for Telepsychiatry and  
23 e-Behavioral Health for the statewide telepsychiatry program established under  
24 G.S. 143B-139.4B, known as NC-STeP. These funds shall be used to expand access to  
25 telepsychiatry services through NC-STeP for students and employees at up to four additional  
26 constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.

27       **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2022.

