

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

**S**

**1**

**SENATE BILL 538**

Short Title: DHHS Contract/EPIC at State Psych. Hospitals. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Burgin, Krawiec, and Perry (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 6, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
2 DIVISION OF STATE OPERATED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, IN COORDINATION  
3 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, TO EXECUTE A  
4 CONTRACT THAT PROVIDES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EPIC SOFTWARE  
5 AS THE STANDARD, UNIFORM SOFTWARE PLATFORM FOR ELECTRONIC  
6 HEALTH RECORDS WITHIN THE STATE'S PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS; AND  
7 APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.  
8

9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 **SECTION 1.** By October 1, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services,  
11 Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities, in coordination with the Department of  
12 Information Technology, is directed to execute a contract that provides for the following:

13 (1) The implementation, by January 1, 2022, of Epic software as the standard,  
14 uniform platform for electronic health records within each of the State  
15 psychiatric hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department  
16 of Health and Human Services pursuant to G.S. 122C-181.

17 (2) The training of the State's psychiatric hospitals staff on the use of Epic.

18 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
19 Information Technology the sum of ten million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$10,900,000) in  
20 nonrecurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year and the sum of twenty million dollars  
21 (\$20,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year to be allocated to Fund Code  
22 24667 to cover the costs of the contract required by Section 1 of this act.

23 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.

