

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021**

S

1

SENATE BILL 823

Short Title: Crime Victims Compensation Fund Expansion. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Britt, Daniel, and Mohammed (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget

May 27, 2022

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO INCREASE CERTAIN ALLOWABLE EXPENSES TO BE PAID TO VICTIMS
3 OF CRIMES FROM THE CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND AND TO
4 APPROPRIATE FUNDS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 15B-2 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 15B-2. Definitions.**

8 As used in this Article, the following definitions apply, unless the context requires otherwise:

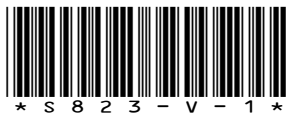
9 (1) Allowable expense. – Reasonable charges incurred for reasonably needed
10 products, services, and accommodations, including those for medical care,
11 rehabilitation, medically-related property, and other remedial treatment and
12 care. Reasonably needed services include (i) counseling for immediate family
13 members of children under the age of 18 who are victims of rape, sexual
14 assault, or domestic violence and (ii) family counseling and grief counseling
15 for immediate family members of homicide victims. The cumulative total for
16 counseling services provided to immediate family members shall not exceed
17 ~~three-forty-five~~ thousand dollars ~~(\$3,000)-(\$45,000)~~ per family.

18 Allowable expense includes a total charge not in excess of ~~five-eight~~
19 thousand dollars ~~(\$5,000)-(\$8,000)~~ for expenses related to funeral, cremation,
20 and burial, including transportation of a body, but excluding expenses for
21 flowers, gravestone, and other items not directly related to the funeral service.

22 Allowable expense for medical care, counseling, rehabilitation,
23 medically-related property, and other remedial treatment and care of a victim
24 shall be limited to sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the amount
25 usually charged by the provider for the treatment or care. By accepting the
26 compensation paid as allowable expense pursuant to this subdivision, the
27 provider agrees that the compensation is payment in full for the treatment or
28 care and shall not charge or otherwise hold a claimant financially responsible
29 for the cost of services in addition to the amount of allowable expense.

30"

31 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Crime Victims
32 Compensation Fund in the Department of Public Safety the sum of five hundred thousand dollars
33 (\$500,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year to be used in the manner as
34 directed for funds within the Crime Victims Compensation Fund.



1 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this act is effective when it becomes law and applies to
2 payments for allowable expenses awarded on or after that date. Section 2 of this act becomes
3 effective July 1, 2022. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.