

Bill #/Name: HB 276 Strengthen Youth Tobacco Use Prevention/Funds.
Primary Sponsors: Rep. Lambeth, Rep. Adcock, Rep. Dobson, Rep. Watford
Number of Co-Sponsors: 24

Brief Bill Summary

Purpose of the bill

- The bill creates a Tobacco Use Prevention Fund. The stated purpose of the Fund is to prevent the use of new and emerging tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, especially among youth and people of childbearing age.
- The Tobacco Use Prevention Fund is a restricted reserve in the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease and Injury Section.
- Monies in the Fund do not revert, but remain available to the Department for these purposes.

Summary of what the bill entails

- There is an appropriation from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Chronic Disease and Injury Section totaling \$17,000,000 for the FY 2017-2018 and \$17,000,000 for the FY 2018-2019.
- The Department of Health and Human Services may use monies in the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund only for the following purposes:
 - (1) To create regional tobacco use prevention programs covering all 100 counties in North Carolina to engage young people in tobacco use prevention teams in counties and school districts across the region, provide education and training of youth leaders at the local level, and reach young people with effective tobacco use prevention, with an emphasis on preventing the use of new and emerging tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes.
 - (2) To provide technical assistance and oversight of the regional tobacco use prevention programs.
 - (3) For evidence-based education campaigns on the health risks of tobacco use, new and emerging tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, and effective tobacco use prevention and control strategies and policies through channels known to effectively reach youth, parents, and communities across the State.
 - (4) For education and enforcement of G.S. 14-313, including with respect to new and emerging tobacco products.
 - (5) To conduct an independent, university-based evaluation of the reach and effectiveness of the State's tobacco use prevention programs.
- The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop guidelines providing for the administration of the Fund.
- The Department may use up to 25 percent of the amount appropriated to the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund to administer the Fund.
- The Department may disburse funds from the Tobacco Use Prevention Fund to any local health department or other organization with an interest in preventing tobacco use that does not receive funding from the tobacco industry upon a demonstration by the local health department or organization of both of the following:
 - (1) A purpose authorized by subsection (b) of this section.
 - (2) A commitment to compliance with guidelines developed by the Department on evidence-based tobacco use prevention and control strategies.

This act becomes effective July 1, 2017.