OVERVIEW: Section 9B.8B of S.L. 2021-180 requires that of the funds appropriated from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Office of Rural Health, Division of Central Management and Support, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), $1 million in the 2021-2022 fiscal year must be allocated as a directed grant to Atrium Health, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, to support the development and implementation of a school-based virtual care pilot program to address health disparities in historically underserved areas disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The pilot program must utilize telehealth to facilitate access to health care services and resources that improve health outcomes through the care coordination efforts of local providers. The funds must be allocated equally among 10 pilot program sites located in four elementary schools in Anson County and six elementary schools in Forsyth County where at least 90% of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.