

1 Transylvania, and Yancey) and (ii) each of the following specialties:
2 family practice/internal medicine, general pediatrics,
3 obstetrics/gynecology, oncology, radiation oncology, cardiology,
4 otolaryngology, general surgery, and orthopedics. To the extent that
5 MHS has exceeded the physician employment cap specified in this
6 sub-subdivision in any of the applicable counties as of the effective
7 date of this act, it shall not be required to take any action to bring
8 itself in compliance with the cap. In determining the number of
9 physicians in full-time practice: (i) the hours of licensed physicians
10 in part-time practice shall be combined and (ii) the hours of retired
11 physicians, physicians who spend more than fifty percent (50%) of
12 their time on administrative duties instead of directly providing
13 professional medical or surgical services, federal and military
14 physicians, residents, and fellows shall be excluded.

15 **SECTION 1.(b)** The following definitions apply in this section:

- 16 (1) "Licensed physician in full-time practice" means any physician who
17 maintains a full, active, and unrestricted license to practice medicine from
18 the North Carolina Medical Board and directly provides professional
19 medical or surgical services, or both, in one or more of the counties specified
20 in subsection (a)(3)b. of this section for at least 36 hours per week.
- 21 (2) "Licensed physician in part-time practice" means any physician who
22 maintains a full, active, and unrestricted license to practice medicine from
23 the North Carolina Medical Board and directly provides professional
24 medical or surgical services, or both, in one or more of the counties specified
25 in subsection (a)(3)b. of this section for more than eight hours per week but
26 less than 36 hours per week.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.