

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
1979 SESSION

CHAPTER 898  
SENATE BILL 389

AN ACT TO PROVIDE MORE EFFECTIVE SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
THROUGH STATE AND COUNTY NEW GENERATION INTERAGENCY  
COMMITTEES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**Section 1.** Article 9 of G.S. Chapter 143B is amended by adding the following new Part:

"Part 20. New Generation Interagency Committees.

"§ 143B-422. **Declaration of findings and policy.** — It is the policy of the State of North Carolina to afford each new generation of children greater opportunities and to burden it with fewer disabilities than the preceding generation had. The General Assembly finds that the family is the most effective institution through which to meet the needs of children; that the family alone can not meet all of the essential needs of each new generation of children, particularly in the areas of health care and education; and that the wide range of programs and agencies serving the needs of children requires that steps be taken to coordinate their efforts. The General Assembly declares, therefore, that it is the policy of the State to promote and encourage programs and practices to support and strengthen families in North Carolina; to give priority to health care programs, especially preventive and ambulatory care services, which are particularly appropriate to children; to encourage every child to acquire the basic skills necessary to achieve a meaningful life; to encourage the establishment of a system of child care accessible to families that need and want the service; and to provide a structure through which child-centered programs may be coordinated for maximum effectiveness.

"§ 143B-422.1. **New Generation Interagency Committee; creation; membership; structure.** — (a) The New Generation Interagency Committee is created. The committee consists of the Governor of North Carolina, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of Human Resources, the Secretary of Cultural Resources, the Associate Dean and Director of the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University, the Director of the Office of Citizen Affairs, the Director of the Governor's Advocacy Council on Children and Youth, the Director of the State Goals and Policy Board, one member of the North Carolina House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, and one member of the North Carolina Senate appointed by the President of the Senate. Legislative members are appointed for two-year terms, beginning February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

(b) The Governor is chairperson of the committee. The vice-chairperson is designated by the Governor from among the membership of the committee, after consultation with the members of the committee.

(c) The committee meets regularly at such times and in such places as the Governor deems necessary to accomplish its functions. The Governor may call special meetings at any time and place.

(d) The Governor shall organize the work of the committee, and shall prepare rules of procedure governing the operation of the committee.

(e) No member of the committee shall receive compensation for services on the committee, except that members of the General Assembly shall receive travel and subsistence

at the rates set out in G.S. 120-3.1, for services on the committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

**"§ 143B-422.2. New Generation Interagency Committee; powers and duties.** — The New Generation Interagency Committee has the following powers and duties:

- (1) to improve communication and coordination among State, regional, and local programs, agencies and activities relating to family and children policy;
- (2) to communicate with federal agencies dealing with family and children services and policy, and to work toward a coordinated effort with those agencies;
- (3) to identify areas of duplication of services to families and children and to identify ways of eliminating the duplication;
- (4) to identify gaps in existing services to families and children and to formulate new programs and changes in existing programs to effectuate the policies set out in this Article;
- (5) to receive and review statistics, research findings and recommendations from citizens and professionals, and to develop procedures and guidelines that will improve services to families and children;
- (6) to modify policy, programs, procedures and regulations that serve as barriers to the effective delivery of services to families and children;
- (7) to perform other duties assigned by the Governor for the purpose of effectuating the policies set out in this Article.

**"§ 143B-422.3. County New Generation Interagency Committees authorized; purpose.** — Boards of county commissioners may create county New Generation Interagency Committees to coordinate the work of the various existing agencies which offer services in their respective counties to children and their families. Any board of county commissioners may designate an existing interagency council as the New Generation Interagency Committee for that county. County New Generation Interagency Committees shall be committed to raising a literate and healthy new generation of children, and shall bring together all existing resources to help the family and the community ensure good development, health care and education for each child in his early formative years.

**"§ 143B-422.4. County New Generation Interagency Committees; membership; organization; procedures.** — (a) County New Generation Interagency Committees shall include a representative of the public schools; social services; mental health; developmental evaluation centers; health departments; county, municipal or regional libraries; agricultural extension office; and any other child-serving agencies designated by the board of county commissioners.

(b) The board of county commissioners may designate the county manager or any other person as chairperson of the county committee. Members of the county committee shall elect one of their number as vice-chairperson of the committee.

(c) Each county committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure, and shall meet regularly at such times and places as it deems necessary. Special meetings of the committee may be called by the chairperson. Each county committee may create working groups needed to assist the committee. The chairperson shall have general administrative authority to organize the work of the committee.

**"§ 143B-422.5. County New Generation Interagency Committees; powers and duties.** — County New Generation Interagency Committees have the following powers and duties:

- (1) to improve communication and coordination among agency programs for children and their families;
- (2) to assess the health and educational status of the county's children;

- (3) to review the county's spending for children and to search for ways to eliminate service duplication;
- (4) to plan and organize county conferences of citizens and professionals in an effort to assess and improve the health and educational status of children;
- (5) to plan and promote coordinated agency efforts to improve conditions such as the infant mortality rate, the nutritional status, and the educational attainment of the county's children;
- (6) to recommend to the county commissioners such cooperative efforts and modifications of policy, plans and programs as the council considers necessary and desirable;
- (7) upon approval by the county commissioners, to recommend to the State New Generation Interagency Committee such changes in legislation, policy and administrative regulation as would serve to facilitate the effective delivery of services to children and their families;
- (8) to continuously educate and inform the general public regarding matters affecting children and their families;
- (9) to perform such other powers, duties, and functions as the board of county commissioners may prescribe."

**Sec. 2.** Schedule. The initial appointments of the legislative members of the New Generation Interagency Committee shall be made for terms to expire January 31, 1981; thereafter appointments of these members shall be for terms of two years.

**Sec. 3.** Funding. The provisions of this act shall be implemented without the appropriation of additional funds by the General Assembly.

**Sec. 4.** This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 8th day of June, 1979.