

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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HOUSE BILL 142*

Short Title: Social Services Programs.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Colton, Hardaway, Holt, Nye, Woodard; and S. Thompson.

Referred to: Human Resources.

February 2, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO
2 ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION PROGRAM REGARDING PUBLIC
3 ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS, TO DEVELOP A PLAN
4 TO TARGET LOW-INCOME PERSONS FOR INFORMATION AND
5 REFERRAL, AND TO CREATE A POSITION TO IMPLEMENT THE
6 PROGRAMS.
7

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 Section 1. The Department of Human Resources shall establish a program to
10 inform public and private agencies, community groups, and interested persons about
11 public assistance and social services programs, including AFDC, Medical Assistance,
12 Food Stamps, and programs designed to address infant mortality. The Department shall
13 develop a referral list of public and private agencies, community groups, and interested
14 persons who serve low-income people. The Department shall inform these agencies and
15 persons and the general public about public assistance and social services programs and
16 changes in the law which affect client eligibility or the extent of services under the
17 programs. The Department shall develop and distribute informational materials, such as
18 public service announcements, brochures, pamphlets, posters, and correspondence.

19 Sec. 2. The Department of Human Resources shall develop and implement an
20 information and referral plan targeted to low-income persons. The plan may include
21 identification of low-income persons who could be assisted by social services and
22 public assistance programs and development of community educational materials, such
23 as pamphlets, brochures, posters, and public service announcements explaining public
24 assistance and social services programs, changes in eligibility and the extent of services.

1 The community education materials shall be easily understandable by persons reading
2 on a fourth grade level.

3 Sec. 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
4 Human Resources the sum of one hundred sixteen thousand one hundred eighty-four
5 dollars (\$116,184) for the 1989-90 fiscal year and one hundred six thousand ninety-one
6 dollars (\$106,091) for the 1990-91 fiscal year to fund a position of Public Information
7 Officer and to provide the clerical and material support within the Department to
8 implement the provisions of this act.

9 Sec. 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.