

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE BILL 1530*

Short Title: Est. Child Maltreatment Prevention Council. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, Earle (Primary Sponsors); Alexander, B. Allen, Carney, Insko, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 21, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COUNCIL ON CHILD
3 MALTREATMENT PREVENTION AND AN INTERAGENCY LEADERSHIP
4 TEAM FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT PREVENTION AND TO
5 APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Legislative Oversight Council on Child Maltreatment
8 Prevention (Council) and the Interagency Leadership Team for Child Maltreatment
9 Prevention (Leadership Team) are established within the Department of Health and
10 Human Services, Division of Public Health, for the purpose of preventing child
11 maltreatment in North Carolina. The Legislative Oversight Council on Child
12 Maltreatment Prevention is created to ensure implementation of plans recommended by
13 the North Carolina Institute of Medicine Task Force on Child Abuse Prevention and to
14 improve communication, accountability, and coordination efforts among the multiple
15 systems working to strengthen families. For purposes of this section, multiple systems
16 shall include services offered by the Division of Public Health, the Division of Mental
17 Health, the Department of Public Instruction, the Division of Social Services, and any
18 other private or nonprofit organizations. The Interagency Leadership Team for Child
19 Maltreatment Prevention is created to support the work of the Legislative Oversight
20 Council on Child Maltreatment Prevention.

21 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Council shall consist of no more than 15 members. On
22 or after January 1, 2006, the General Assembly, upon recommendation of the President
23 Pro Tempore of the Senate, shall appoint five members, two of whom shall serve
24 two-year terms, and three of whom shall serve one-year terms; the General Assembly,
25 upon recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall appoint
26 five members, three of whom shall serve two-year terms, and two of whom shall serve
27 one-year terms; and the Division of Public Health shall appoint five members, two of
28 whom shall serve two-year terms, and three of whom shall serve two-year terms. Upon

1 the expiration of the initial Council members, each member shall be appointed for a
2 term of two years and shall serve until a successor is appointed. Members of the Council
3 shall include representatives from the various State agencies as well as professional
4 associations and nonprofit organizations that serve families and children. The
5 appointing authority shall have the power to remove any member of the Council from
6 office. Any appointment to fill a vacancy on the Council created by the resignation,
7 dismissal, death, or disability of a member shall be for the remainder of the unexpired
8 term. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

9 The Leadership Team shall consist of no more than five members of the
10 Council appointed by the Division of Public Health for one-year terms.

11 **SECTION 1.(c)** Both the Council and the Leadership Team shall continue
12 the work of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine Task Force on Child Abuse
13 Prevention (Task Force) by:

- 14 (1) Ensuring implementation of the Task Force recommendations.
- 15 (2) Identifying, promoting, and finding ways to support evidence-based
16 child abuse prevention programs.
- 17 (3) Strategically coordinating the planning, implementation, and
18 evaluation of child abuse prevention efforts across multiple systems as
19 described in subsection (a) of this section.
- 20 (4) Requiring collaboration among the multiple systems to better use
21 existing funds for evidence-based and research-based initiatives.

22 **SECTION 1.(d)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division
23 of Public Health, shall prepare and submit a report on the Council and Leadership
24 Team's prevention efforts to the General Assembly no later than December 1 of each
25 year that shall include the following:

- 26 (1) A description of the Council and Leadership Team and the services
27 each provides.
- 28 (2) The quantity of services provided.
- 29 (3) A description of any child abuse prevention efforts implemented.
- 30 (4) Any recommendations for legislative action.

31 **SECTION 1.(e)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of
32 Public Health, may adopt rules to implement this section.

33 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
34 Department of Health and Human Service, Division of Public Health, the sum of two
35 hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year for staffing and
36 operational support in establishing the Legislative Oversight Council on Child
37 Maltreatment Prevention and the Interagency Leadership Team for Child Maltreatment
38 Prevention.

39 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.