# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2007

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#### **HOUSE BILL 1473**

Committee Substitute Favorable 5/8/07 Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 5/9/07 Fourth Edition Engrossed 5/11/07 Corrected Copy 5/11/07

Short Title:	2007 Appropriations Act.	(Public)
Sponsors:		
Referred to:		

# April 16, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 2 AN ACT TO MAKE EXPANSION AND BASE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR 3 CURRENT OPERATIONS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, INSTITUTIONS, AND 4 AGENCIES; TO EXTEND THE STATE SALES TAX RATE AT 4.25% UNTIL 5 JULY 1, 2009; TO EXTEND THE UPPER INCOME TAX RATE AT 8% 6 2009: TO UPDATE THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE THROUGH 7 REFERENCE; TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS TAX RELIEF 8 THROUGH A REFUNDABLE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT. 9 MEANS-TESTED LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE TAX CREDIT, AN 10 ADOPTION TAX CREDIT, A CONVERSION OF THE SALES TAX ON 11 SOFTWARE PUBLISHERS' MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT 12 PRIVILEGE TAX AT THE RATE OF 1% WITH AN \$80 CAP, TO RAISE THE EXEMPTION AMOUNT FOR SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS 13 14 DURING THE SALES TAX HOLIDAY, AN INCREASED TAX CREDIT FOR 15 OUALIFIED R&D EXPENSES. AN ENHANCEMENT OF THE TAX CREDIT FOR CONSTRUCTING RENEWABLE FUEL FACILITIES, AN EXPANSION OF 16 THE SALES AND USE TAX REFUND FOR AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURING 17 18 TO INCLUDE AIRCRAFT PARTS, AN ENHANCEMENT OF THE SALES TAX 19 HOLIDAY, AND AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE TAX RATE ON PROPERTY 20 COVERAGE INSURANCE CONTRACTS: TO SET THE INSURANCE 21 REGULATORY CHARGE, TO SET THE PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY 22 FEE, TO INCREASE CERTAIN FEES TO SUPPORT RECEIPT-SUPPORTED 23 SERVICES, TO PROVIDE FOR THE FINANCING OF VARIOUS HIGHER 24 EDUCATION AND STATE FACILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

# PART I. INTRODUCTION AND TITLE OF ACT

28 29 **INTRODUCTION** 

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**Current Operations – General Fund** 

2008-2009

TITLE OF ACT

of each fiscal year.

**SECTION 1.2.** This act shall be known as the "Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2007."

amounts necessary to provide the services and accomplish the purposes described in the

budget. Savings shall be effected where the total amounts appropriated are not required

to perform these services and accomplish these purposes and, except as allowed by the

State Budget Act, or this act, the savings shall revert to the appropriate fund at the end

**SECTION 1.1.** The appropriations made in this act are for maximum

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#### PART II. CURRENT OPERATIONS AND EXPANSION/GENERAL FUND

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# CURRENT OPERATIONS AND EXPANSION/GENERAL FUND

**SECTION 2.1.** Appropriations from the General Fund of the State for the maintenance of the State departments, institutions, and agencies, and for other purposes as enumerated, are made for the biennium ending June 30, 2009, according to the following schedule:

2007-2008

21	_		
22	EDUCATION		
23			
24	Community Colleges System Office	\$ 926,981,160	\$ 895,293,003
25			
26	Department of Public Instruction	7,617,858,906	7,647,067,360
27	•		
28	University of North Carolina - Board of Governors		
29	Appalachian State University	121,088,901	122,546,135
30	East Carolina University		
31	Academic Affairs	199,045,069	205,525,138
32	Health Affairs	48,700,539	48,649,036
33	Elizabeth City State University	31,383,354	32,120,970
34	Fayetteville State University	52,707,308	53,547,957
35	North Caroline Agricultural and		
36	Technical University	89,645,552	90,016,889
37	North Carolina Central University	75,885,006	77,267,483
38	North Carolina School of the Arts	24,391,420	23,729,158
39	North Carolina State University		
40	Academic Affairs	345,923,308	354,659,304
41	Agricultural Extension	42,241,968	42,126,187
42	Agricultural Research	53,406,637	52,144,009
43	University of North Carolina at Asheville	33,294,273	33,724,733
44	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill		
45	Academic Affairs	264,945,034	270,689,011
46	Health Affairs	188,883,060	194,407,363
47	Area Health Education Centers	47,818,875	47,818,875
48	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	160,339,554	165,594,896
49	University of North Carolina at Greensboro	144,430,129	148,224,622
50	University of North Carolina at Pembroke	52,719,972	54,338,118
51	University of North Carolina at Wilmington	93,986,841	96,392,956

General Assembly of North Carolina		Session 2007
Western Carolina University	83,713,910	84,907,386
Winston-Salem State University	65,806,656	68,862,020
General Administration	42,489,469	42,647,024
University Institutional Programs	86,387,408	78,275,794
Related Educational Programs	149,629,645	149,933,562
North Carolina School of Science and Mathema	tics 16,859,174	17,065,422
UNC Hospitals at Chapel Hill	45,673,970	45,673,970
Total University of North Carolina –		
Board of Governors	\$ 2,561,397,032	\$ 2,600,888,018
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
Department of Health and Human Services		
Office of the Secretary	70,456,262	64,218,183
Division of Aging	35,907,589	35,909,179
Division of Blind Services/Deaf/HH	11,212,540	11,434,643
Division of Child Development	306,853,499	311,284,207
Division of Education Services	38,794,264	38,855,457
Division of Facility Services	20,398,484	20,561,228
Division of Medical Assistance	2,846,030,681	3,125,704,806
Division of Mental Health	722,132,137	730,053,807
NC Health Choice	59,391,155	59,391,155
Division of Public Health	196,880,664	181,086,071
Division of Social Services	216,988,902	218,708,788
Division of Vocation Rehabilitation	44,216,797	45,518,365
Total Health and Human Services	\$ 4,569,262,974	\$ 4,842,725,889
Total House and Human Solvices	Ψ 1,505,202,571	Ψ 1,0 12,723,009
NATURAL AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES		
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	\$ 69,857,939	\$ 60,997,179
Department of Commerce		
Commerce	62,068,944	40,289,341
Commerce State-Aid	35,445,235	24,200,235
NC Biotechnology Center	12,354,692	12,354,692
Rural Economic Development Center	43,190,022	24,190,022
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	197,575,831	187,713,956
DENR Clean Water Management Trust Fund	100,000,000	100,000,000
Department of Labor	16,494,758	16,494,951
JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY		
Department of Correction	\$ 1,213,986,709	\$ 1,235,779,061
Department of Crime Control and Public Safety	51,162,444	41,200,144
Judicial Department	414,383,094	416,627,599
Judicial Department – Indigent Defense	107,316,301	111,437,472
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Department of Justice	95,313,802	91,003,0
Department of Juvenile Justice and	150 022 515	165 147 0
Delinquency Prevention	158,833,717	165,147,9
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
Department of Administration	67,122,032	67,390,3
Office of Administrative Hearings	3,691,458	3,521,7
Department of State Auditor	12,903,026	12,916,4
Office of State Controller	20,539,148	20,562,6
Department of Cultural Resources		
Cultural Resources	73,183,844	69,434,4
Roanoke Island Commission	2,020,023	2,020,0
State Board of Elections	6,385,722	5,969,6
General Assembly	54,538,665	55,740,7
Office of the Governor		
Office of the Governor	6,436,304	6,474,5
Office of State Budget and Management	5,757,493	5,764,1
OSBM – Reserve for Special Appropriations	5,938,446	4,938,4
Housing Finance Agency	18,608,417	9,608,4
Department of Insurance		
Insurance	30,922,133	30,936,7
Insurance – Volunteer Safety Workers' Compensa	ation 4,500,000	4,500,0
Office of Lieutenant Governor	914,122	915,1
Department of Revenue	84,851,963	84,944,3
Department of Secretary of State	11,476,990	10,743,0
Department of State Treasurer		
State Treasurer	9,285,010	9,282,0
State Treasurer – Retirement for Fire and		
Rescue Squad Workers	9,458,957	9,458,9
TRANSPORTATION		
Department of Transportation	0	
1	•	

	<b>General Assembly of North Carolina</b>		Session 2007
1	Reserve for Compensation Increases	503,279,019	501,610,500
2 3	Salary Adjustment Fund: 2007-09 Biennium	23,688,000	23,688,000
4 5 6 7	Reserve for Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement Contribution	29,600,000	29,600,000
8	Reserve for Retirement System Payback	45,000,000	0
9 10	Reserve for State Health Plan	133,978,000	178,637,000
11 12	Contingency and Emergency Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000
13 14	Information Technology Fund	25,140,000	2,840,000
15 16	Reserve for Job Development Investment Grants (JI	DIG) 12,400,000	12,400,000
17 18	Integrated Tax Administration System Replacement	t 10,000,000	0
19 20	Energy Efficiency Reserve	10,000,000	0
21 22	Reserve for Pending Legislation	2,233,213	1,320,324
23 24	Distinguished Professors Endowment Fund	6,000,000	0
25 26	Reserve for Eliminated Positions	(103,000,000)	(103,000,000)
27 28	One-time Fiscal Relief for Medicaid County Share	100,000,000	0
29 30	Reserve for Critically Needed Positions	24,653,000	0
31 32 33 34 35	Debt Service General Debt Service Federal Reimbursement	619,793,004 1,616,380	701,454,348 1,616,380
36 37 38	TOTAL CURRENT OPERATIONS – GENERAL FUND	\$ 20,131,397,929	\$ 20,283,698,408
39 40 41 42	<b>GENERAL FUND AVAILABILITY STATEME SECTION 2.2.(a)</b> The General Fund 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:		1 6
43 44 45 46 47 48	Projected Reversions FY 2006-07 Projected Overcollections FY 2006-07 Less Earmarkings of Year End Fund Balance	\$ 0 125,000,000 1,135,200,000	\$ 107,989,902 0 0
49 50 51	Savings Reserve Account Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account <b>Beginning Unreserved Fund Balance</b>	(315,050,000) (145,000,000) \$ <b>800,150,000</b>	0 0 \$ <b>107,989,902</b>
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1 2 3	Revenues Based on Existing Tax Structure	\$ 1	8,532,400,000	<b>\$</b> 1	19,551,000,000
3	Nonton Donomos				
4 5	Nontax Revenues		201 600 000		211 100 000
	Investment Income		201,600,000		211,100,000
6	Judicial Fees		173,000,000		177,100,000
7	Disproportionate Share		100,000,000		100,000,000
8	Insurance		55,500,000		57,900,000
9	Other Nontax Revenues		140,400,000		154,300,000
10	Tobacco Trust Fund Transfer		10,000,000		0
11	Highway Trust Fund/Use Tax		1=4 =00 000		1== ===================================
12	Reimbursement Transfer		172,500,000		172,500,000
13	Highway Fund Transfer		18,190,000		17,610,000
14	Subtotal Nontax Revenues	\$	871,190,000	\$	890,510,000
15					
16	Total General Fund Availability	\$ 2	0,203,740,000	\$ 2	20,549,499,902
17					
18	Adjustments to Availability: 2007 Session				
19	Extend 4.25% Sales Tax Rate for 2 Years		258,400,000		285,900,000
20	Extend 8% Upper Income Tax Bracket				
21	for 2 Years		40,800,000		93,700,000
22	IRC Conformity		(56,900,000)		(49,100,000)
23	Health & Human Services/Facility Services Fee	S	1,705,501		1,642,407
24	Secretary of State Corporate Annual Report Fee		563,016		563,016
25	Earned Income Tax Credit		0		(68,900,000)
26	Long-term Care Insurance Tax Credit		(7,000,000)		(7,200,000)
27	Adoption Tax Credit		(3,000,000)		(3,000,000)
28	Enhance 529 Plan Deduction (House Bill 1016)		(200,000)		(200,000)
29	Privilege Tax on Software Publishers		(3,700,000)		(4,000,000)
30	Research & Development Credit Enhancement		(400,000)		(800,000)
31	Modify Tax on Property Coverage Contracts		(1,500,000)		(3,100,000)
32	Reserve for Manufacturers' and		( ) , ,		(-,,,
33	Farmers Energy Tax Provisions		(14,500,000)		(30,100,000)
34	Enhanced Credit for Constructing		, , , ,		(,,,
35	Renewable Fuels Facilities		0		(2,250,000)
36	Reserve for Military Tax Relief		(4,000,000)		(4,000,000)
37	Reserve for Work Opportunity Tax Credit		(6,000,000)		(6,000,000)
38	Sales Tax Refund for Aircraft Part Mfgrs.		(800,000)		(800,000)
39	Adjust Sales Tax Holiday		(600,000)		(600,000)
40	Adjust Transfer from Insurance Regulatory Fund	d	80,274		56,274
41	Adjust Transfer from Treasurer's Office	u	66,638		54,638
42	Transfer from Closed Capital Account		3,506,143		0
43	Subtotal Adjustments to Availability:		3,300,143		O .
44	2007 Session	\$	206,521,572	\$	201,866,335
45	2007 Session	Ψ	200,021,072	Ψ	201,000,000
46	Revised General Fund Availability	\$ 2	0.410.261 572	\$ 1	20,751,366,237
47	201200 Conciui I una Municipi	Ψ =	10, 110,401,014	ΨΔ	-0,101,000,201
48	<b>Less: General Fund Appropriations</b>	(2	0.302.271.670)	(2	20,359,306,633)
49	2000. Concini i min rippi oprimiono	(=	,,,,	(=	.0,000,000)
50	<b>Unappropriated Balance Remaining</b>	\$	107,989,902	\$	392,059,604
51	cumply obtained paramet mentaling	Ψ	101,500,500	Ψ	07 <b>4</b> ,007,00 <del>1</del>
J1					

**SECTION 2.2.(b)** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143-15.2 and G.S. 143-15.3A, the State Controller shall transfer one hundred forty-five million dollars (\$145,000,000) from the unreserved credit balance to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account on June 30, 2007. This subsection becomes effective June 30, 2007.

**SECTION 2.2.(c)** Funds transferred under this section to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account are appropriated for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to be used in accordance with G.S. 143C-4-3.

**SECTION 2.2.(d)** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 105-187.9(b)(1), the sum to be transferred under that subdivision for the 2007-2008 fiscal year is one hundred seventy million dollars (\$170,000,000) and for the 2008-2009 fiscal year is one hundred seventy million dollars (\$170,000,000).

SECTION 2.2.(e) Pursuant to G.S. 105-187.9(b)(2), the sum to be transferred under that subdivision for the 2007-2008 fiscal year is two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) and for the 2008-2009 fiscal year is two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).

**SECTION 2.2.(f)** The appropriation made in this act to the Clean Water Management Trust Fund in the amount of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) is made pursuant to G.S. 113A-253.1 and is not in addition to the statutory appropriation made in that section.

# PART III. CURRENT OPERATIONS/HIGHWAY FUND

# **CURRENT OPERATIONS AND EXPANSION/HIGHWAY FUND**

**SECTION 3.1.** Appropriations from the State Highway Fund for the maintenance and operation of the Department of Transportation and for other purposes as enumerated are made for the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2009, according to the following schedule:

2007-2008	2008-2009
\$ 65,089,050	\$ 84,255,576
22 (51 442	22 702 126
	32,703,136 140,173,949
905,658,411	900,648,052
4,700,000	4,700,000
425,000	425,000
31,313,921	27,763,921
93,046,035	93,073,949
, ,	96,866,447
, ,	19,730,033 17,101,153
21,931,133	17,101,133
334,314	335,449
103,676,924	119,130,944
262,132,152	259,796,180
	\$ 65,089,050 32,651,442 175,895,465 905,658,411 4,700,000 425,000 31,313,921 93,046,035 73,466,447 21,860,122 21,951,153 334,314

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Reserves and Transfers	33,372,211	34,876,211
TOTAL	\$1,825,572,647	\$1,831,580,000
HIGHWAY FUND AVAILABILITY STATI	EMENT	
<b>SECTION 3.2.</b> The Highway Fu 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:	nd availability used	in developing the
Highway Fund Availability Statement	2007-2008	2008-2009
nappropriated Balance From Previous Year	\$ 0	\$ 4,867,353
Beginning Credit Balance	30,000,000	-
Estimated Revenue	1,800,440,000	1,831,580,000
Total Highway Fund Availability	\$1,830,440,000	\$1,836,447,353
Unappropriated Balance	\$ 4,867,353	\$ 4,867,353
PART IV. HIGHWAY TRUST FUND APPR	OPRIATIONS	
HIGHWAY TRUST FUND APPROPRIATI		
<b>SECTION 4.1.</b> Appropriations from		
maintenance and operation of the Department		
as enumerated are made for the biennium en	nding June 30, 2009,	according to the
following schedule:		
	2005 2000	2000 2000
Current Operations – Highway Trust Fund	2007-2008	2008-2009
ntrastate System	\$ 540,326,825	\$ 550,107,613
Urban Loops	218,485,665	222,440,608 57,719,120
Aid to Municipalities	56,692,887	, ,
Secondary Roads	94,808,677 42,722,640	96,786,225 43,386,880
Program Administration Transfer to General Fund	172,543,306	172,619,554
Transfer to Ocheral Pullu	172,343,300	172,019,334
GRAND TOTAL CURRENT OPERATIONS	2	
AND EXPANSION	\$ 1,125,580,000	\$ 1,143,060,000
AND EM ANDION	φ 1,123,300,000	Ψ エャエサシャѴѴѴۥѴѴѴ
		. , , , ,
HICHWAY TRUST FUND AVAILARILITY	V STATEMENT	, , , ,
<b>SECTION 4.2.</b> The Highway Trust		
HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AVAILABILITY SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:		
<b>SECTION 4.2.</b> The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:	Fund availability used	in developing the
<b>SECTION 4.2.</b> The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:		
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability	Fund availability used	in developing the
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability	Fund availability used	in developing the
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability  PART V. OTHER AVAILABILITY	Fund availability used \$ 1,125,580,000	\$ 1,143,060,000
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability  PART V. OTHER AVAILABILITY  CIVIL PENALTIES AND FORFEITUI	Fund availability used	\$ 1,143,060,000
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability  PART V. OTHER AVAILABILITY  CIVIL PENALTIES AND FORFEITUL APPROPRIATION	Fund availability used \$ 1,125,580,000  RE FUND AVAIL	\$ 1,143,060,000  ABILITY AND
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability  PART V. OTHER AVAILABILITY  CIVIL PENALTIES AND FORFEITULE APPROPRIATION SECTION 5.1.(a) Availability.	Fund availability used \$ 1,125,580,000  RE FUND AVAIL  — The availability	\$ 1,143,060,000  ABILITY AND  used to support
SECTION 4.2. The Highway Trust 2007-2009 biennial budget is shown below:  Total Highway Trust Fund Availability  PART V. OTHER AVAILABILITY  CIVIL PENALTIES AND FORFEITUL APPROPRIATION	Fund availability used \$ 1,125,580,000  RE FUND AVAIL  — The availability enalty and Forfeiture F	\$ 1,143,060,000  ABILITY AND  used to support Fund is based upon

FY 2007-2008 FY 2008-2009

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below:

49 50

1	Department of Revenue	\$63,000,000	\$63,000,000
2	Department of Transportation	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
3	Employment Security Commission	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
4	Department of Insurance	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
5	University of North Carolina	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
6	Other Agencies	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
7	Total Funds Available	\$95,500,000	\$95,500,000

**SECTION 5.1.(b)** Appropriations. – Appropriations are made from the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund for the fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2009, as follows:

	FY 2007-2008	FY 2008-2009
School Technology Fund	\$18,000,000	\$18,000,000
State Public School Fund	\$77,500,000	\$77,500,000
Total Appropriation	\$95,500,000	\$95,500,000

# **EDUCATION LOTTERY**

**SECTION 5.2.(a)** Pursuant to G.S. 18C-164, the revenue used to support appropriations made in this act is transferred from the State Lottery Fund in the amount of three hundred fifty million dollars (\$350,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

**SECTION 5.2.(b)** The appropriations made from the Education Lottery Fund pursuant to G.S. 18C-164(d) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year are as follows:

Class Size Reduction	\$ 105,000,000
Prekindergarten Program	70,000,000
Public School Building Capital Fund	140,000,000
Scholarships for Needy Students	35,000,000
Total Appropriation	\$ 350,000,000

**SECTION 5.2.(c)** Notwithstanding G.S. 18C-164(f), if the actual net revenues exceed the amounts appropriated for the 2007-2008 fiscal year in subsection (b) of this section, the excess net revenues shall remain in the Education Lottery Fund, and then may be transferred by the Director of the Budget among the four categories in that subsection in the discretion of the Director and are appropriated for those purposes. **SECTION 5.2.(d)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2007.

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND AVAILABILITY AND APPROPRIATION

**SECTION 5.3.(a)** The availability used to support appropriations made in this act from the Information Technology Fund established in G.S. 147-33.72H is as follows:

1 1	
42	
43	
11	

	FY 2007-2008	FY 2008-2009
Receipts from Information Technology Enterprise Fee	\$9,800,000	\$9,800,000
BEACON/Data Integration Funds	\$1,000,000	-
Interest Income	\$100,000	\$100,000
IT Fund Balance June 30, 2007	\$600,000	-

Appropriation from General Fund

\$4,140,000

\$2,840,000

**Total Funds Available** 

\$15,640,000

\$12,740,000

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**SECTION 5.3.(b)** Appropriations are made from the Information Technology Fund for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium as set forth in the Committee Report.

# PART VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### APPROPRIATION OF CASH BALANCES AND RECEIPTS

**SECTION 6.1.(a)** Expenditures of cash balances, federal funds, departmental receipts, grants, and gifts from the various General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Enterprise Fund, Internal Service Fund, and Trust and Agency Fund budget codes are appropriated and authorized for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium as follows:

- (1) For all budget codes listed in "North Carolina State Budget, Recommended Operating Budget 2007-2009, Volumes 1 through 6," cash balances and receipts are appropriated up to the amounts specified in Volumes 1 through 6, as adjusted by the General Assembly, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Funds may be expended only for the programs, purposes, objects, and line items specified in Volumes 1 through 6, or otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.
- (2) For all budget codes that are not listed in "North Carolina State Budget, Recommended Operating Budget 2007-2009, Volumes 1 through 6," cash balances and receipts are appropriated for each year of the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium up to the level of actual expenditures for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, unless otherwise provided by law. Funds may be expended only for the programs, purposes, objects, and line items authorized for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.
- (3) Notwithstanding subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, any receipts that are required to be used to pay debt service requirements for various outstanding bond issues and certificates of participation are appropriated up to the actual amounts received for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year and shall be used only to pay debt service requirements.
- (4) Notwithstanding subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, cash balances and receipts of funds that meet the definition issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board of a trust or agency fund are appropriated for and in the amounts required to meet the legal requirements of the trust agreement for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

All these cash balances, federal funds, departmental receipts, grants, and gifts shall be expended and reported in accordance with the provisions of the State Budget Act, except as otherwise provided by law and this section.

**SECTION 6.1.(b)** Receipts collected in a fiscal year in excess of the amounts authorized by this section shall remain unexpended and unencumbered until appropriated by the General Assembly in a subsequent fiscal year, unless the expenditure of overrealized receipts in the fiscal year in which the receipts were collected is authorized by the State Budget Act.

Overrealized receipts are appropriated up to the amounts necessary to implement this subsection.

In addition to the consultation and reporting requirements set out in G.S. 143C-26-4 and the Office of State Budget and Management shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and to the Fiscal Research Division of the Legislative Services Office within 30 days after the end of each quarter on any overrealized receipts approved for expenditure under this subsection by the Director of the Budget. The report shall include the source of the receipt, the amount overrealized, the amount authorized for expenditure, and the rationale for expenditure.

**SECTION 6.1.(c)** Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, there is appropriated from the Reserve for Reimbursements to Local Governments and Shared Tax Revenues for each fiscal year an amount equal to the amount of the distributions required by law to be made from that reserve for that fiscal year.

# **EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS IN RESERVES LIMITED**

**SECTION 6.2.** All funds appropriated by this act into reserves may be expended only for the purposes for which the reserves were established.

# REVISE FREQUENCY OF FEE REPORT

**SECTION 6.3.** G.S. 143C-9-4 reads as rewritten:

# "§ 143C-9-4. Annual Fee Report. Biennial fee report.

The Office of State Budget and Management shall prepare a report annually biennially on the fees charged by each State department, bureau, division, board, commission, institution, and agency during the previous two fiscal—year-years. The report shall include the statutory or regulatory authority for each fee, the amount of the fee, when the amount of the fee was last changed, the number of times the fee was collected during the prior fiscal year, and the total receipts from the fee during the prior fiscal year."

#### **BUDGET REALIGNMENT**

**SECTION 6.4.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4(b), the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of the State Controller and the Fiscal Research Division, may adjust the enacted budget by making transfers among purposes or programs for the sole purpose of correctly aligning authorized positions and associated operating costs with the appropriate purposes or programs as defined in G.S. 143C-1-1(d)(23). The Office of State Budget and Management shall change the certified budget to reflect these adjustments only after reporting the proposed adjustments to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division. Under no circumstances shall total General Fund expenditures for a State department exceed the amount appropriated to that department from the General Fund for the fiscal year.

# CONSULTATION NOT REQUIRED PRIOR TO ESTABLISHING OR INCREASING FEES PURSUANT TO THE STATE BUDGET ACT

**SECTION 6.5.** Notwithstanding G.S. 12-3.1, an agency is not required to consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to establishing or increasing a fee as authorized or anticipated in this act, or in the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee Reports on the Continuation, Expansion and Capital Budgets, that were distributed in the House of Representatives Appropriations and Base Budget Committees and used to explain this act.

#### CONVERSION OF CONTRACTED POSITIONS

**SECTION 6.6.(a)** Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision in law, State government executive branch agencies under Chapter 143A or Chapter 143B of the General Statutes shall not use State funds appropriated for purposes other than the establishment of permanent positions to create permanent positions.

**SECTION 6.6.(b)** If the Director of the Budget finds that State funds previously appropriated for personal services contracts would be more efficiently and effectively used to maintain a purpose, program, or service for which the functions were originally appropriated, the Director may use State funds to convert existing personal services contracts to permanent positions.

**SECTION 6.6.(c)** If the Director of the Budget makes a finding as described in subsection (b) of this section prior to taking the action needed to effectuate the conversion of contracted positions to permanent status, the Office of State Budget and Management and Office of State Personnel shall consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to implementing the proposed conversions. In addition to the information requirements set forth in G.S. 143-64.70, that report shall set out the reason the positions are necessary to maintain the purpose, program, or service including detailed information on the purpose of the original contract positions, the reasons for the conversions, and the cost of the contract positions over the life of the contract as compared to the cost of the State positions over the same period of time.

**SECTION 6.6.(d)** The Office of State Budget and Management and the Office of State Personnel shall report to the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and to the Fiscal Research Division of the Legislative Services Office on compliance with this section by no later than February 1 in odd-numbered years and no later than April 1 in even-numbered years.

#### STAFFING ANALYSIS OF STATE AGENCY BUSINESS FUNCTIONS

**SECTION 6.7.(a)** The Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Controller and the Office of State Personnel, shall conduct annual follow-up analyses to the Human Resources/Payroll Function Mapping Analysis that was completed in fiscal year 2007 by the BEACON staff and OSBM. This initial analysis was conducted to provide not only a pre-implementation assessment of State agency Human Resources/Payroll staffing prior to BEACON HR/Payroll implementation but also to provide a basis on which new HR/Payroll roles required by BEACON implementation could be mapped. These follow-up analyses of State agency HR/Payroll staffing should be completed by January 1 of each year to assure the staffing levels remain appropriate. The annual staffing analyses shall be conducted throughout the implementation of the BEACON HR/Payroll System and shall continue for a reasonable time after the implementation to assure that the staffing levels are adjusted based on the increased efficiency provided by the implementation.

**SECTION 6.7.(b)** The Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Controller, shall conduct a staffing analysis of the business functions of State government to include, but not necessarily be limited to, agency fiscal offices, budget offices, and procurement offices to be completed by April 30, 2008. This initial analysis will serve as a pre-implementation assessment of State agency business functions staffing prior to the proposed implementation of the remaining components of the BEACON ERP System. Follow-up analyses should be conducted annually and completed by January 1 of each year to assure the staffing

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levels remain appropriate. The annual staffing analyses shall be conducted throughout the implementation of future BEACON components and shall continue for a reasonable time after the implementation to assure that the staffing levels are adjusted based on the increased efficiency provided by the implementation.

**SECTION 6.7.(c)** By April 30, 2008, the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Controller, and then by January 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Controller and the Office of State Personnel, shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, to the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget, to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology, and to the Fiscal Research Division on the results of the annual staffing analyses of State government business functions conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and on the implementation of the BEACON HR/Payroll System.

**SECTION 6.7.(d)** Prior to any staffing changes that result from the staffing analyses conducted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Controller and the Office of State Personnel, shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, to the Chairs of the Senate Committee Appropriations/Base Budget, to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology, and to the Fiscal Research Division on the annual staffing analyses of State government business functions conducted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and on the proposed implementation of the remaining components of the BEACON ERP System.

#### **BEACON DATA INTEGRATION**

**SECTION 6.8.(a)** The Office of the State Controller, in cooperation with the State Chief Information Officer, shall develop a comprehensive plan for the integration of databases and the sharing of information among State agencies, operations, and programs. This plan shall be developed and implemented under the governance of the BEACON Project Steering Committee and in cooperation and in communication with leadership within the several State agencies and with the support and cooperation of the Office of State Budget and Management. This plan shall include the following:

- Definition of requirements for achieving statewide data integration. (1)
- A schedule for implementation with a completion date of no later than (2) the year 2010.
- Priorities for database integration, commencing with the integration of (3) databases that the BEACON Project Steering Committee identifies as most crucial to the enhancement of operations and effectiveness, focusing on two or three State agencies that can achieve the greatest initial benefit from implementation.
- (4) Identification of current statewide and agency data integration efforts and a strategy for integrating those projects into this effort.
- (5) Detailed cost information for development and implementation, as well as five years of operations and maintenance costs.

While it is the intent that this initiative provide a broad new access to information across State government, the plan shall comply with all necessary security measures and restrictions to ensure that access to any specific information held confidential under federal and State law shall be limited to appropriate and authorized persons.

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**SECTION 6.8.(b)** Of the funds appropriated from the General Fund to the North Carolina Information Technology Fund, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used for BEACON data integration as provided by subsection (a) of this section. The Office of State Controller, in coordination with State agencies and with the support of the Office of State Budget and Management, shall identify and obtain any federal matching funds or other funding sources available to assist in funding this initiative.

**SECTION 6.8.(c)** By January 31, 2008, the Office of the State Controller, with the support of the State's Chief Information Officer, shall provide this comprehensive plan including implementation schedule in an oral report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and in a written report to the Chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the Chairs of the Senate Information Technology Committee and House Science and Technology Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division. The Office of State Controller shall provide a written report of the plan's implementation progress, including benefits and return on investment analysis as identified by the Office of State Budget and Management to the Chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the Chairs of the Senate Information Technology Committee and House Science and Technology Committee, and Fiscal Research Division no later than the date of the convening of the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

**SECTION 6.8.(d)** This effort shall not place any new or additional requirements upon The University of North Carolina or the North Carolina Community College System.

### TWENTY PERCENT COLLECTION ASSISTANCE FEE

**SECTION 6.9.** G.S. 105-243.1(e) reads as rewritten:

"(e) Use. – The fee is a receipt of the Department and must be applied to the costs of collecting overdue tax debts. The proceeds of the fee must be credited to a special account within the Department and may be expended only as provided in this subsection. The proceeds of the fee may not be used for any purpose that is not directly and primarily related to collecting overdue tax debts. The Department may apply the proceeds of the fee for the purposes listed in this subsection. The remaining proceeds of the fee may be spent only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly. The fee proceeds do not revert but remain in the special account until spent for the costs of collecting overdue tax debts. The Department and the Office of State Budget and Management must account for all expenditures using accounting procedures that clearly distinguish costs allocable to collecting overdue tax debts from costs allocable to other purposes and must demonstrate that none of the fee proceeds are used for any purpose other than collecting overdue tax debts.

The Department may apply the fee proceeds for the following purposes:

- (1) To pay contractors for collecting overdue tax debts under subsection (b) of this section.
- (2) To pay the fee the United States Department of the Treasury charges for setoff to recover tax owed to North Carolina.
- (3) To pay for taxpayer locater services, not to exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) a year.
- (4) To pay for postage or other delivery charges for correspondence directly and primarily relating to collecting overdue tax debts, not to exceed three hundred fifty three five hundred thousand dollars (\$353,000)(\$500,000) a year.

- (5) To pay for operating expenses for Project Collection Tax and the Taxpayer Assistance Call Center.
- (6) To pay for expenses of the Examination and Collection Division directly and primarily relating to collecting overdue tax debts.
- (7) To pay for the replacement of the Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) and related collections initiatives, not to exceed forty million dollars (\$40,000,000)."

# **ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESERVE**

**SECTION 6.10.** Of the funds appropriated in this act, the sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) shall be used to establish the Energy Efficiency Reserve. The Reserve shall be administered by the State Energy Office. The State Energy Office may use up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for any current grants program to promote the conservation of energy, alternative fuels for transportation, and renewable energy sources. The State Energy Office, in consultation with the State Construction Office, shall use the remaining funds in the Energy Efficiency Reserve to provide funding for projects designed to make State, university, or community college facilities more energy efficient. Projects eligible to make State, university, or community college facilities more energy efficient from remaining funds in the Energy Efficiency Reserve include:

- Replacement of incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, installation of exit signs that employ light-emitting diode (LED) technology, the installation of occupancy sensors or optical sensors, and other lighting efficiency improvements.
- (2) For windows that need replacement, installation of more energy efficient windows.
- (3) Insulation improvements when practicable.
- (4) Replacement of inefficient or oversized heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems when those systems are subject to replacement, and installation of programmable automation systems.
- (5) Installation of aerators in sink faucets that reduce the flow rate, and other water system projects that reduce water consumption.
- (6) Any other retrofit or replacement projects that make State, university, or community college facilities more energy efficient for which the incremental cost of the project will be equal to or less than the energy or water savings that result over a period of three years after completion.

Funds appropriated to the Reserve for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall not revert and shall remain available until expended. The State Energy Office shall report to the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees on the use of the Reserve funds no later than May 1, 2008.

# OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES BUDGET REVIEW

**SECTION 6.11.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 147-33.88, the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) shall develop an annual budget for review and approval by the Office of State Budget and Management in accordance with the schedule prescribed by the Director. The approved ITS budget shall be included in the Governor's budget recommendations to the General Assembly.

**SECTION 6.11.(b)** The Office of State Budget and Management shall ensure that State agencies have an opportunity to adjust their budgets based on any rate changes proposed by the Office of Information Technology Services.

# OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES REVIEW OF STATE IT BUDGET SUBMISSIONS

**SECTION 6.12.(a)** The State Chief Information Officer (SCIO) shall review each information technology project budget request from the various State departments, agencies, and institutions prior to the formal submission of those requests to the Governor in order to facilitate a coherent and cost-effective State investment strategy for information technology projects and systems. The SCIO's review shall:

- (1) Identify the purpose of the information technology project or system.
- (2) Identify whether the project or system would result in any duplication of effort across governmental agencies, including State, local, and federal agencies.
- (3) Determine the completeness, timeliness, and accessibility of the data developed and used by the system.
- (4) Estimate the cost and actual staffing for the project or system.
- (5) Ascertain the organizational location of the system as well as the hardware and software inventories associated with the system or project.
- (6) Assess the current and potential benefits that the technology investment would provide to the State.
- (7) Identify any opportunities for the State to leverage federal and local support of the information technology system or project.
- (8) Consider any other information pertinent to the utility, functionality, and cost-effectiveness of the project or system.

The SCIO shall submit the detailed analysis of each information technology budget request to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM). Based on that analysis, the OSBM may require State departments, agencies, and institutions to coordinate information technology budget requests and projects to increase efficiency and eliminate duplication in the governance, organization, staffing, and functionality of information technology projects and systems across State government.

**SECTION 6.12.(b)** By February 1, 2008, the Office of State Budget and Management shall report to the General Assembly on its efforts and outcomes relative to increasing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the State's information technology projects and programs as prescribed by this section. This report shall include detailed information on initiatives to eliminate duplication.

**SECTION 6.12.(c)** This section does not apply to The University of North Carolina System or to the Judicial Branch.

# GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) STUDY

**SECTION 6.13.(a)** The Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM), in consultation with the Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (CGIA), the State Chief Information Officer, and the chair of the Geographic Information Coordinating Council (GICC), shall conduct a study to identify the development and use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in North Carolina by State agencies. The study shall identify the purpose of each system; any duplication of effort across agencies, including local governments and federal agencies; the completeness, timeliness, and accessibility of the data developed and used by the systems; the cost and actual staffing for each system; the organizational location of each system; the hardware and software inventories associated with each system. The study shall also assess the current and potential benefits that GIS investments provide to the State and identify opportunities for the State to leverage federal and local support for North Carolina GIS systems.

**SECTION 6.13.(b)** OSBM shall make recommendations on the governance. organization, and staffing of GIS in and across State agencies and on a coherent and cost-effective State investment strategy for GIS that appropriately leverages local and federal support and eliminates duplication of capabilities. The report shall include a recommended strategy for consolidating State GIS initiatives. The OSBM shall make a written report of these findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 15, 2008.

**SECTION 6.13.(c)** This section does not apply to The University of North Carolina or to the Judicial Branch.

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# E-COMMERCE LONG-RANGE STRATEGY REPORT

**SECTION 6.14.** The Office of the State Controller shall evaluate the opportunities for efficiencies in State government through the use of electronic commerce as it relates to both disbursement and collection of funds, and shall report the results of that evaluation to the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly. The report shall include all of the following:

- Input from the entire State government user base, including State (1) agencies, universities, community colleges, local education agencies, and other units of government that may be disbursing or collecting State funds. Input is also to be obtained from the various central agencies involved in the financial affairs of State government and from the Office of Information Technology.
- (2) Specific proposals that would, if implemented, expand electronic commerce activity in the State government fiscal environment, and which shall include the establishment of an ongoing function within State government to execute the expansion. The recommendations should address activities that are suitable for statewide contractual arrangements, as well as those suitable for governmental entities to pursue individually. The recommendations should include expected costs and benefits of these implementations; recommendations for funding recurring and nonrecurring costs of the specific proposals; and a business case to support the recommendations.
- Proposed legislation that may be considered by the 2008 Regular (3) Session of the 2007 General Assembly to ensure compliance with merchant card industry policies and standards for operations and security.
- (4) Proposed legislation that may be considered by the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly that addresses any inconsistencies or conflicts in existing statutes relating to electronic commerce activities.

Periodic updates on this activity may be requested by the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations. The final report is due no later than April 30, 2008.

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#### **UNC DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR CHALLENGE-GRANT** INITIATIVE/REDUCE BACKLOG FOR DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND PROFESSORSHIPS

**SECTION 6.15.(a)** The UNC Distinguished Professor Challenge-Grant Initiative is established as a reserve fund to be administered by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina. Funds in the UNC Distinguished Professor Challenge-Grant Initiative shall be used to provide State matching funds for a private

challenge-grant initiative and shall be allocated consistent with G.S. 116-41.15. Funds from the UNC Distinguished Professor Challenge-Grant Initiative when matched with private funds shall provide the funding required to endow one distinguished professorship at each of the 16 constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina in the 2007-2008 fiscal year. All professorships endowed through this Initiative shall be in the fields of teacher education, engineering, nursing, or the traditional arts and sciences.

**SECTION 6.15.(b)** Funds are allocated in the North Carolina House of Representatives Committee Report on the Continuation, Expansion and Capital Budget, dated May 8, 2007, for the purpose of addressing the existing backlog of professorships under the Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Fund.

#### ONE-TIME FISCAL RELIEF FOR MEDICAID COUNTY SHARE

**SECTION 6.16.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, a sum not to exceed one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be allocated to provide one-time assistance for the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid as provided in this section.

**SECTION 6.16.(b)** Of the funds allocated in subsection (a) of this section, the sum of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) shall be allocated to all 100 counties for one-time assistance. Each county's share of the one-time assistance for the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid shall be determined by calculating the ratio of each county's total Medicaid expenditures in fiscal year 2006-2007 to the total Statewide Medicaid expenditures for 2006.

**SECTION 6.16.(c)** Of the funds allocated in subsection (a) of this section, the sum of forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) shall be allocated for targeted assistance for those counties whose Medicaid population is twenty-five percent (25%) or greater of the county's total population in 2006. Each county's share of one-time targeted assistance for the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid shall be determined by calculating the ratio of each county's targeted assistance share to the total Medicaid expenses of all of the targeted counties in fiscal year 2006-2007.

**SECTION 6.16.(d)** Of the funds allocated in subsection (a) of this section, the sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) shall be allocated for those counties whose Medicaid population is twenty percent (20%) or greater but less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the county's total population in 2006. Each county's share of one-time targeted assistance for the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid shall be determined by calculating the ratio of each county's targeted assistance share to the total Medicaid expenses of all of the targeted counties in fiscal year 2006-2007.

**SECTION 6.16.(e)** The Division of Medical Assistance shall distribute the one-time assistance for the county share of the nonfederal share of Medicaid expenditures by subtracting one-twelfth of each county's share of the one-time assistance from the county's monthly Medical Assistance payments during fiscal year 2007-2008.

#### **SECTION 6.16.(f)** For purposes of this section:

- (1) "Medical Assistance payments" include Medicare Part D payments.
- (2) Medical Assistance payments in fiscal year 2006-2007 represent the sum of 12 county warrants for Medicaid expenditures from June 2006 through May 2007. Medical Assistance payments in fiscal year 2007-2008 represent the sum of the 12 warrants for Medicaid expenditures from June 2007 through May 2008.

NO FUNDS FOR ONE-TIME BONUS

**SECTION 6.16A.** Notwithstanding any provision of this act, no funds shall be used to fund a one-time lump sum compensation bonus for State employees for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

## RESERVE FOR CRITICALLY NEEDED POSITIONS

**SECTION 6.16B.** There is established in the Office of State Budget and Management the Reserve for Critically Needed Positions to make funds available to State agencies to employ temporary employees to fill vacancies in positions critical to the functions of State government that have been eliminated under this act.

#### **ELIMINATION OF VACANT POSITIONS**

**SECTION 6.17.** The Office of State Budget and Management shall eliminate all positions across State government that are funded through the General Fund and vacant for more than six months on June 30, 2007, by transferring from the various State departments, agencies, and institutions the salary and benefits related funding appropriated for State government positions vacant on that date. There is established in the Office of State Budget and Management a Reserve for Eliminated Positions. Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-9, the sum of one hundred three million dollars (\$103,000,000) shall be credited to the Reserve for Eliminated Positions from the savings associated with the elimination of vacant positions required by this section, effective July 1, 2007.

## STUDY OF LAPSED SALARY USE

**SECTION 6.18.(a)** The Office of State Budget and Management shall conduct an analysis of lapsed salary use by all State agencies. The analysis shall include a five-year history of lapsed salaries generated by State departments, institutions, and agencies and the uses of those lapsed salaries. The report should note instances where spending of lapsed salaries was specifically authorized by legislative action. The report shall include recommendations for methods to reduce the use of lapsed salary and the amount of funds generated as lapsed salary by use for each State department, institution, and agency.

**SECTION 6.18.(b)** The Office of State Budget and Management shall report its findings to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations by April 30, 2008.

#### PART VII. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# TEACHER SALARY SCHEDULES

**SECTION 7.1.(a)** Effective for the 2007-2008 school year, the Director of the Budget shall transfer from the Reserve for Compensation Increases funds necessary to implement the teacher salary schedules set out in subsection (b) of this section and for longevity in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions for all teachers whose salaries are supported from the State's General Fund.

These funds shall be allocated to individuals according to rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

**SECTION 7.1.(b)** The following monthly salary schedules shall apply for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to certified personnel of the public schools who are classified as teachers. The schedule contains 32 steps with each step corresponding to one year of teaching experience.

1						
1 2 3 4 5 6	2007-2008 Monthly Salary Schedule					
3		"A" Teachers	MDDEEG G 181 1			
4	Years of Experience	"A" Teachers	NBPTS Certification			
5	0	\$2,975	N/A			
6	1	\$3,017	N/A			
7 8	2 3	\$3,061	N/A			
8		\$3,217	\$3,603			
9	4	\$3,357	\$3,760			
10	5	\$3,491	\$3,910			
11	6	\$3,620	\$4,054			
12	7	\$3,724	\$4,171			
13	8	\$3,772	\$4,225			
14	9	\$3,821	\$4,280			
15	10	\$3,871	\$4,336			
16	11	\$3,920	\$4,390			
17	12	\$3,971	\$4,448			
18	13	\$4,022	\$4,505			
19	14	\$4,075	\$4,564			
20	15	\$4,129	\$4,624			
21	16	\$4,184	\$4,686			
22	17	\$4,239	\$4,748			
23	18	\$4,298	\$4,814			
24	19	\$4,356	\$4,879			
25	20	\$4,414	\$4,944			
26	21	\$4,476	\$5,013			
27	22	\$4,537	\$5,081			
28	23	\$4,603	\$5,155			
29	24	\$4,667	\$5,227			
30	25	\$4,732	\$5,300			
31	26	\$4,798	\$5,374			
32	27	\$4,866	\$5,450			
33	28	\$4,937	\$5,529			
34	29	\$5,008	\$5,609			
35	30	\$5,106	\$5,719			
36	31+	\$5,208	\$5,833			
37		2007 2000 15 11 71 71				
38		2007-2008 Monthly Salary Scho	edule			
39		"M" Teachers	NIDDIIG G . 'C' . '			
40	Years of Experience	"M" Teachers	NBPTS Certification			
41	0	\$3,273	N/A			
42	1	\$3,319	N/A			
43	2 3	\$3,367	N/A			
44	3	\$3,539	\$3,964			
45	4 5	\$3,693	\$4,136			
46		\$3,840	\$4,301			
47	6	\$3,982	\$4,460 \$4.500			
48	7	\$4,096 \$4,140	\$4,588 \$4,647			
49	8	\$4,149 \$4,203	\$4,647 \$4,707			
50	9	\$4,203 \$4,258	\$4,707 \$4,760			
51	10	\$4,258	\$4,769			

	General Assembly of No	orth Carolina	
1	11	\$4,312	\$4,829
2	12	\$4,368	\$4,892
3	13	\$4,424	\$4,955
4 5	14	\$4,483	\$5,021
5	15	\$4,542	\$5,087
6	16	\$4,602	\$5,154
7	17	\$4,663	\$5,223
8	18	\$4,728	\$5,295
8	19	\$4,792	\$5,367
10	20	\$4,855	\$5,438
11	21	\$4,924	\$5,515
12	22	\$4,991	\$5,590
13	23	\$5,063	\$5,671
14	24	\$5,134	\$5,750
15	25	\$5,205	\$5,830
16	26	\$5,278	\$5,911
17	27	\$5,353	\$5,995
18	28	\$5,431	\$6,083
19	29	\$5,509	\$6,170
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**SECTION 7.1.(c)** Annual longevity payments for teachers shall be at the rate of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of base salary for 10 to 14 years of State service, two and twenty-five hundredths percent (2.25%) of base salary for 15 to 19 years of State service, three and twenty-five hundredths percent (3.25%) of base salary for 20 to 24 years of State service, and four and one-half percent (4.5%) of base salary for 25 or more years of State service. The longevity payment shall be paid in a lump sum once a year.

\$5,617

\$5,729

**SECTION 7.1.(d)** Certified public schoolteachers with certification based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for certified personnel of the public schools who are classified as "M" teachers. Certified public schoolteachers with certification based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level shall receive a salary supplement of two hundred fifty-three dollars (\$253.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for certified personnel of the public schools who are classified as "M" teachers.

**SECTION 7.1.(e)** The first step of the salary schedule for school psychologists shall be equivalent to Step 5, corresponding to five years of experience, on the salary schedule established in this section for certified personnel of the public schools who are classified as "M" teachers. Certified psychologists shall be placed on the salary schedule at an appropriate step based on their years of experience. Certified psychologists shall receive longevity payments based on years of State service in the same manner as teachers.

Certified psychologists with certification based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for certified psychologists. Certified psychologists with certification based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level shall receive a salary supplement of two hundred fifty-three

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Session 2007

\$6,291

\$6,416

dollars (\$253.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for certified psychologists.

**SECTION 7.1.(f)** Speech pathologists who are certified as speech pathologists at the master's degree level and audiologists who are certified as audiologists at the master's degree level and who are employed in the public schools as speech and language specialists and audiologists shall be paid on the school psychologist salary schedule.

Speech pathologists and audiologists with certification based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for speech pathologists and audiologists. Speech pathologists and audiologists with certification based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level shall receive a salary supplement of two hundred fifty-three dollars (\$253.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for speech pathologists and audiologists.

**SECTION 7.1.(g)** Certified school nurses who are employed in the public schools as nurses shall be paid on the "M" salary schedule.

**SECTION 7.1.(h)** As used in this section, the term "teacher" shall also include instructional support personnel.

**SECTION 7.1.(i)** Teachers paid on Step 0 of the salary schedule for the 2007-2008 school year shall receive a one-time, lump sum sign-on bonus of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), payable at the end of the school year.

#### SCHOOL-BASED ADMINISTRATOR SALARY SCHEDULE

**SECTION 7.2.(a)** Effective for the 2007-2008 school year, the Director of the Budget shall transfer from the Reserve for Compensation Increases funds necessary to implement the salary schedules for school-based administrators as provided in this section. These funds shall be used for State-paid employees only.

**SECTION 7.2.(b)** The base salary schedule for school-based administrators shall apply only to principals and assistant principals. The base salary schedule for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, commencing July 1, 2007, is as follows:

2007-2008 Principal and Assistant Principal Salary Schedules
Classification

33			Classi	ncanon		
34	Years of Exp	Assistant	Prin I	Prin II	Prin III	Prin IV
35	-	Principal	(0-10)	(11-21)	(22-32)	(33-43)
36	0-4	\$3,730	-	-	-	-
37	5	\$3,878	-	-	_	-
38	6	\$4,022	-	-	_	-
39	7	\$4,137	-	-	_	-
40	8	\$4,190	\$4,190	-	-	-
41	9	\$4,245	\$4,245	-	_	-
42	10	\$4,301	\$4,301	\$4,355	_	-
43	11	\$4,355	\$4,355	\$4,412	_	-
44	12	\$4,412	\$4,412	\$4,468	\$4,528	-
45	13	\$4,468	\$4,468	\$4,528	\$4,587	\$4,648
46	14	\$4,528	\$4,528	\$4,587	\$4,648	\$4,710
47	15	\$4,587	\$4,587	\$4,648	\$4,710	\$4,775
48	16	\$4,648	\$4,648	\$4,710	\$4,775	\$4,840
49	17	\$4,710	\$4,710	\$4,775	\$4,840	\$4,904
50	18	\$4,775	\$4,775	\$4,840	\$4,904	\$4,973
51	19	\$4,840	\$4,840	\$4,904	\$4,973	\$5,041

General Ass	sembly of Nort	h Carolina			Session 2007
20	\$4,904	\$4,904	\$4,973	\$5,041	\$5,114
21	\$4,973	\$4,973	\$5,041	\$5,114	\$5,185
22	\$5,041	\$5,041	\$5,114	\$5,185	\$5,257
23	\$5,114	\$5,114	\$5,185	\$5,257	\$5,331
24	\$5,185	\$5,185	\$5,257	\$5,331	\$5,407
25	\$5,257	\$5,257	\$5,331	\$5,407	\$5,485
26	\$5,331	\$5,331	\$5,407	\$5,485	\$5,564
27	\$5,407	\$5,407	\$5,485	\$5,564	\$5,675
28	\$5,485	\$5,485	\$5,564	\$5,675	\$5,789
29	\$5,564	\$5,564	\$5,675	\$5,789	\$5,905
30	\$5,675	\$5,675	\$5,789	\$5,905	\$6,023
31	\$5,789	\$5,789	\$5,905	\$6,023	\$6,143
32	Ψ3,707	\$5,905	\$6,023	\$6,143	\$6,266
33	_	Φ3,903	\$6,143	\$6,266	\$6,391
34	_	_		\$6,391	\$6,519
	-	_	\$6,266		
35 36	-	-	-	\$6,519	\$6,649 \$6,783
36	-	-	-	\$6,649	\$6,782
37	-	<del>-</del>	_	-	\$6,918
	2007 2009 Dais	aimal and Aasi	stant Drin sin al	Colour, Coloo	4.1
	2007-2008 Prin			Salary Sche	autes
V CE	D ' 1/		ification	D . 7/111	
Years of Exp		Prin VI	Prin VII	Prin VIII	
0.14	(44-54)	(55-65)	(66-100)	(101+)	
0-14	\$4,775	-	_	-	
15	\$4,840	- -	-	-	
16	\$4,904	\$4,973	-	-	
17	\$4,973	\$5,041	\$5,185	-	
18	\$5,041	\$5,114	\$5,257	\$5,331	
19	\$5,114	\$5,185	\$5,331	\$5,407	
20	\$5,185	\$5,257	\$5,407	\$5,485	
21	\$5,257	\$5,331	\$5,485	\$5,564	
22	\$5,331	\$5,407	\$5,564	\$5,675	
23	\$5,407	\$5,485	\$5,675	\$5,789	
24	\$5,485	\$5,564	\$5,789	\$5,905	
25	\$5,564	\$5,675	\$5,905	\$6,023	
26	\$5,675	\$5,789	\$6,023	\$6,143	
27	\$5,789	\$5,905	\$6,143	\$6,266	
28	\$5,905	\$6,023	\$6,266	\$6,391	
29	\$6,023	\$6,143	\$6,391	\$6,519	
30	\$6,143	\$6,266	\$6,519	\$6,649	
31	\$6,266	\$6,391	\$6,649	\$6,782	
32	\$6,391	\$6,519	\$6,782	\$6,918	
33	\$6,519	\$6,649	\$6,782 \$6,918	\$7,056	
34	\$6,649	\$6,782	\$7,056	\$7,030 \$7,197	
35	\$6,782	\$6,918	\$7,030	\$7,341	
36	\$6,782 \$6,918	\$7,056	\$7,197 \$7,341	\$7,488	
30 37	\$7,056	\$7,030 \$7,197	\$7,341 \$7,488	\$7,488 \$7,638	
38					
	\$7,197	\$7,341 \$7,488	\$7,638 \$7,701	\$7,791 \$7,047	
39 40	-	\$7,488 \$7,638	\$7,791 \$7,047	\$7,947 \$8,106	
40	-	\$7,638	\$7,947	\$8,106	
41	_	-	\$8,106	\$8,268	

Number of Teachers

**SECTION 7.2.(c)** The appropriate classification for placement of principals and assistant principals on the salary schedule, except for principals in alternative schools and in cooperative innovative high schools, shall be determined in accordance with the following schedule:

Classification	Supervised	
Assistant Principal		
Principal I	Fewer than 11 Teachers	
Principal II	11-21 Teachers	
Principal III	22-32 Teachers	
Principal IV	33-43 Teachers	
Principal V	44-54 Teachers	
Principal VI	55-65 Teachers	
Principal VII	66-100 Teachers	
Principal VIII	More than 100 Teachers	

The number of teachers supervised includes teachers and assistant principals paid from State funds only; it does not include teachers or assistant principals paid from non-State funds or the principal or teacher assistants.

The beginning classification for principals in alternative schools and in cooperative innovative high school programs shall be the Principal III level. Principals in alternative schools who supervise 33 or more teachers shall be classified according to the number of teachers supervised.

**SECTION 7.2.(d)** A principal shall be placed on the step on the salary schedule that reflects total number of years of experience as a certificated employee of the public schools and an additional step for every three years of experience as a principal. A principal or assistant principal shall also continue to receive any additional State-funded percentage increases earned for the 1997-1998, 1998-1999, and 1999-2000 school years for improvement in student performance or maintaining a safe and orderly school.

**SECTION 7.2.(e)** Principals and assistant principals with certification based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level shall be paid a salary supplement of one hundred twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month and at the doctoral degree level shall be paid a salary supplement of two hundred fifty-three dollars (\$253.00) per month.

**SECTION 7.2.(f)** Longevity pay for principals and assistant principals shall be as provided for State employees under the State Personnel Act.

**SECTION 7.2.(g)** If a principal is reassigned to a higher job classification because the principal is transferred to a school within a local school administrative unit with a larger number of State-allotted teachers, the principal shall be placed on the salary schedule as if the principal had served the principal's entire career as a principal at the higher job classification.

If a principal is reassigned to a lower job classification because the principal is transferred to a school within a local school administrative unit with a smaller number of State-allotted teachers, the principal shall be placed on the salary schedule as if the principal had served the principal's entire career as a principal at the lower job classification.

This subsection applies to all transfers on or after the effective date of this section, except transfers in school systems that have been created, or will be created, by

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merging two or more school systems. Transfers in these merged systems are exempt from the provisions of this subsection for one calendar year following the date of the merger.

**SECTION 7.2.(h)** Participants in an approved full-time master's in school administration program shall receive up to a 10-month stipend at the beginning salary of an assistant principal during the internship period of the master's program. For the 2006-2007 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years, the stipend shall not exceed the difference between the beginning salary of an assistant principal plus the cost of tuition, fees, and books and any fellowship funds received by the intern as a full-time student, including awards of the Principal Fellows Program. The Principal Fellows Program or the school of education where the intern participates in a full-time master's in school administration program shall supply the Department of Public Instruction with certification of eligible full-time interns.

**SECTION 7.2.(i)** During the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the placement on the salary schedule of an administrator with a one-year provisional assistant principal's certificate shall be at the entry-level salary for an assistant principal or the appropriate step on the teacher salary schedule, whichever is higher.

# **CENTRAL OFFICE SALARIES**

**SECTION 7.3.(a)** The monthly salary ranges that follow apply to assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators, supervisors, and finance officers for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2007.

School Administrator I	\$3,224	\$6,056
School Administrator II	\$3,423	\$6,423
School Administrator III	\$3,633	\$6,814
School Administrator IV	\$3,779	\$7,085
School Administrator V	\$3,931	\$7,372
School Administrator VI	\$4,171	\$7,818
School Administrator VII	\$4,339	\$8,133

The local board of education shall determine the appropriate category and placement for each assistant superintendent, associate superintendent, director/coordinator, supervisor, or finance officer within the salary ranges and within funds appropriated by the General Assembly for central office administrators and superintendents. The category in which an employee is placed shall be included in the contract of any employee.

**SECTION 7.3.(b)** The monthly salary ranges that follow apply to public school superintendents for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2007.

Superintendent I	\$4,605	\$8,627
Superintendent II	\$4,888	\$9,148
Superintendent III	\$5,186	\$9,706
Superintendent IV	\$5,504	\$10,295
Superintendent V	\$5,842	\$10,922

The local board of education shall determine the appropriate category and placement for the superintendent based on the average daily membership of the local school administrative unit and within funds appropriated by the General Assembly for central office administrators and superintendents.

**SECTION 7.3.(c)** Longevity pay for superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators, supervisors, and finance officers shall be as provided for State employees under the State Personnel Act.

**SECTION 7.3.(d)** Superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators, supervisors, and finance officers with

certification based on academic preparation at the six-year degree level shall receive a salary supplement of one hundred twenty-six dollars (\$126.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided pursuant to this section. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, associate superintendents, directors/coordinators, supervisors, and finance officers with certification based on academic preparation at the doctoral degree level shall receive a salary supplement of two hundred fifty-three dollars (\$253.00) per month in addition to the compensation provided for under this section.

**SECTION 7.3.(e)** The State Board of Education shall not permit local school administrative units to transfer State funds from other funding categories for salaries for public school central office administrators.

**SECTION 7.3.(f)** The annual salary increase for all permanent full-time personnel paid from the Central Office Allotment shall be four and one-quarter percent (4.25%), commencing July 1, 2007. The State Board of Education shall allocate these funds to local school administrative units. The local boards of education shall establish guidelines for providing salary increases to these personnel.

### NONCERTIFIED PERSONNEL SALARIES

**SECTION 7.4.(a)** The annual salary increase for permanent, full-time noncertified public school employees whose salaries are supported from the State's General Fund shall be four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) commencing July 1, 2007.

**SECTION 7.4.(b)** Local boards of education shall increase the rates of pay for such employees who were employed for all or part of fiscal year 2006-2007 and who continue their employment for fiscal year 2007-2008 by providing an annual salary increase for employees of four and one-quarter percent (4.25%).

For part-time employees, the pay increase shall be pro rata based on the number of hours worked.

**SECTION 7.4.(c)** The State Board of Education may adopt salary ranges for noncertified personnel to support increases of four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

# BONUS FOR CERTIFIED PERSONNEL AT THE TOP OF THEIR SALARY SCHEDULES

**SECTION 7.5.** Effective July 1, 2007, any permanent personnel employed on July 1, 2007, and paid at the top of the principal and assistant principal salary schedule shall receive a one-time bonus equivalent to two percent (2%). Personnel defined under G.S. 115C-325(a)(5a) are not eligible to receive the bonus.

#### USE OF SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING IN LOW-WEALTH COUNTIES

**SECTION 7.6.(a)** Funds for Supplemental Funding. – The General Assembly finds that it is appropriate to provide supplemental funds in low-wealth counties to allow those counties to enhance the instructional program and student achievement. Therefore, funds are appropriated to State Aid to Local School Administrative Units for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year to be used for supplemental funds for the schools.

**SECTION 7.6.(b)** Use of Funds for Supplemental Funding. – All funds received pursuant to this section shall be used only: (i) to provide instructional positions, instructional support positions, teacher assistant positions, clerical positions, school computer technicians, instructional supplies and equipment, staff development, and textbooks; (ii) for salary supplements for instructional personnel and instructional support personnel; and (iii) to pay an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars

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(\$10,000) of the plant operation contract cost charged by the Department of Public Instruction for services.

Local boards of education are encouraged to use at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the funds received pursuant to this section to improve the academic performance of children who are performing at Level I or II on either reading or mathematics end-of-grade tests in grades 3-8 and children who are performing at Level I or II on the writing tests in grades 4 and 7. Local boards of education shall report to the State Board of Education on an annual basis on funds used for this purpose, and the State Board shall report this information to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. These reports shall specify how these funds were targeted and used to implement specific improvement strategies of each local school administrative unit and its schools, such as teacher recruitment, closing the achievement gap, improving student accountability, addressing the needs of at-risk students, and establishing and maintaining safe schools.

### **SECTION 7.6.(c)** Definitions. – As used in this section:

- (1) "Anticipated county property tax revenue availability" means the county-adjusted property tax base multiplied by the effective State average tax rate.
- (2) "Anticipated total county revenue availability" means the sum of the:
  - Anticipated county property tax revenue availability,
  - Local sales and use taxes received by the county that are levied b. under Chapter 1096 of the 1967 Session Laws or under Subchapter VIII of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes,
  - Sales tax hold harmless reimbursement received by the county c. under G.S. 105-521, and
  - Fines and forfeitures deposited in the county school fund for the d. most recent year for which data are available.
- (3) "Anticipated total county revenue availability per student" means the anticipated total county revenue availability for the county divided by the average daily membership of the county.
- "Anticipated State average revenue availability per student" means the (4) sum of all anticipated total county revenue availability divided by the average daily membership for the State.
- "Average daily membership" means average daily membership as (5) defined in the North Carolina Public Schools Allotment Policy Manual, adopted by the State Board of Education. If a county contains only part of a local school administrative unit, the average daily membership of that county includes all students who reside within the county and attend that local school administrative unit.
- "County-adjusted property tax base" shall be computed as follows: (6)
  - Subtract the present-use value of agricultural land, horticultural land, and forestland in the county, as defined in G.S. 105-277.2, from the total assessed real property valuation of the county,
  - b. Adjust the resulting amount by multiplying by a weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies,
  - Add to the resulting amount the: c.
    - Present-use value of agricultural land, horticultural land, 1. and forestland, as defined in G.S. 105-277.2,

- 2. Value of property of public service companies, determined in accordance with Article 23 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, and
- 3. Personal property value for the county.
- (7) "County-adjusted property tax base per square mile" means the county-adjusted property tax base divided by the number of square miles of land area in the county.
- (8) "County wealth as a percentage of State average wealth" shall be computed as follows:
  - Compute the percentage that the county per capita income is of the State per capita income and weight the resulting percentage by a factor of five-tenths,
  - b. Compute the percentage that the anticipated total county revenue availability per student is of the anticipated State average revenue availability per student and weight the resulting percentage by a factor of four-tenths,
  - c. Compute the percentage that the county-adjusted property tax base per square mile is of the State-adjusted property tax base per square mile and weight the resulting percentage by a factor of one-tenth,
  - d. Add the three weighted percentages to derive the county wealth as a percentage of the State average wealth.
- (9) "Effective county tax rate" means the actual county tax rate multiplied by a weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies.
- (10) "Effective State average tax rate" means the average of effective county tax rates for all counties.
- (10a) "Local current expense funds" means the most recent county current expense appropriations to public schools, as reported by local boards of education in the audit report filed with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission pursuant to G.S. 115C-447.
- (11) "Per capita income" means the average for the most recent three years for which data are available of the per capita income according to the most recent report of the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, including any reported modifications for prior years as outlined in the most recent report.
- "Sales assessment ratio studies" means sales assessment ratio studies performed by the Department of Revenue under G.S. 105-289(h).
- "State average current expense appropriations per student" means the most recent State total of county current expense appropriations to public schools, as reported by local boards of education in the audit report filed with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission pursuant to G.S. 115C-447.
- "State average adjusted property tax base per square mile" means the sum of the county-adjusted property tax bases for all counties divided by the number of square miles of land area in the State.
- (14a) "Supplant" means to decrease local per student current expense appropriations from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year.
- (15) "Weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies" means the weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies in the most recent years for which

county current expense appropriations and adjusted property tax valuations are available. If real property in a county has been revalued one year prior to the most recent sales assessment ratio study, a weighted average of the two most recent sales assessment ratios shall be used. If property has been revalued the year of the most recent sales assessment ratio study, the sales assessment ratio for the year of revaluation shall be used.

**SECTION 7.6.(d)** Eligibility for Funds. – Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, the State Board of Education shall allocate these funds to local school administrative units located in whole or in part in counties in which the county wealth as a percentage of the State average wealth is less than one hundred percent (100%).

**SECTION 7.6.(e)** Allocation of Funds. – Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, the amount received per average daily membership for a county shall be the difference between the State average current expense appropriations per student and the current expense appropriations per student that the county could provide given the county's wealth and an average effort to fund public schools. (To derive the current expense appropriations per student that the county could be able to provide given the county's wealth and an average effort to fund public schools, multiply the county wealth as a percentage of State average wealth by the State average current expense appropriations per student.)

The funds for the local school administrative units located in whole or in part in the county shall be allocated to each local school administrative unit located in whole or in part in the county based on the average daily membership of the county's students in the school units.

If the funds appropriated for supplemental funding are not adequate to fund the formula fully, each local school administrative unit shall receive a pro rata share of the funds appropriated for supplemental funding.

**SECTION 7.6.(f)** Formula for Distribution of Supplemental Funding Pursuant to This Section Only. – The formula in this section is solely a basis for distribution of supplemental funding for low-wealth counties and is not intended to reflect any measure of the adequacy of the educational program or funding for public schools. The formula is also not intended to reflect any commitment by the General Assembly to appropriate any additional supplemental funds for low-wealth counties.

**SECTION 7.6.(g)** Minimum Effort Required. – Counties that had effective tax rates in the 1996-1997 fiscal year that were above the State average effective tax rate but that had effective rates below the State average in the 1997-1998 fiscal year or thereafter shall receive reduced funding under this section. This reduction in funding shall be determined by subtracting the amount that the county would have received pursuant to Section 17.1(g) of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws from the amount that the county would have received if qualified for full funding and multiplying the difference by ten percent (10%). This method of calculating reduced funding shall apply one time only.

This method of calculating reduced funding shall not apply in cases in which the effective tax rate fell below the statewide average effective tax rate as a result of a reduction in the actual property tax rate. In these cases, the minimum effort required shall be calculated in accordance with Section 17.1(g) of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws.

If the county documents that it has increased the per student appropriation to the school current expense fund in the current fiscal year, the State Board of Education shall include this additional per pupil appropriation when calculating minimum effort pursuant to Section 17.1(g) of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws.

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**SECTION 7.6.(h)** Nonsupplant Requirement. – A county in which a local school administrative unit receives funds under this section shall use the funds to supplement local current expense funds and shall not supplant local current expense funds. For the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the State Board of Education shall not allocate funds under this section to a county found to have used these funds to supplant local per student current expense funds. The State Board of Education shall make a finding that a county has used these funds to supplant local current expense funds in the prior year, or the year for which the most recent data are available, if:

- The current expense appropriation per student of the county for the current year is less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the average of the local current expense appropriations per student for the three prior fiscal years; and
- (2) The county cannot show: (i) that it has remedied the deficiency in funding or (ii) that extraordinary circumstances caused the county to supplant local current expense funds with funds allocated under this section.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this section.

**SECTION 7.6.(i)** Reports. – The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee prior to May 1, 2008, if it determines that counties have supplanted funds.

**SECTION 7.6.(j)** Department of Revenue Reports. – The Department of Revenue shall provide to the Department of Public Instruction a preliminary report for the current fiscal year of the assessed value of the property tax base for each county prior to March 1 of each year and a final report prior to May 1 of each year. The reports shall include for each county the annual sales assessment ratio and the taxable values of (i) total real property, (ii) the portion of total real property represented by the present-use value of agricultural land, horticultural land, and forestland as defined in G.S. 105-277.2, (iii) property of public service companies determined in accordance with Article 23 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, and (iv) personal property.

#### SMALL SCHOOL SYSTEM SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

**SECTION 7.7.(a)** Funds for Small School Systems. – Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the State Board of Education shall allocate funds appropriated for small school system supplemental funding (i) to each county school administrative unit with an average daily membership of fewer than 3,175 students and (ii) to each county school administrative unit with an average daily membership from 3,175 to 4,000 students if the county in which the local school administrative unit is located has a county-adjusted property tax base per student that is below the State-adjusted property tax base per student and if the total average daily membership of all local school administrative units located within the county is from 3,175 to 4,000 students. The allocation formula shall:

- (1) Round all fractions of positions to the next whole position.
- (2) Provide five and one-half additional regular classroom teachers in counties in which the average daily membership per square mile is greater than four and seven additional regular classroom teachers in counties in which the average daily membership per square mile is four or fewer.
- (3) Provide additional program enhancement teachers adequate to offer the standard course of study.
- (4) Change the duty-free period allocation to one teacher assistant per 400 average daily membership.

- (5) Provide a base for the consolidated funds allotment of at least seven hundred seventy-seven thousand one hundred eleven dollars (\$777,111), excluding textbooks for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and a base of at least seven hundred seventy-seven thousand one hundred eleven dollars (\$777,111) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- (6) Allot vocational education funds for grade 6 as well as for grades 7-12. If funds appropriated for each fiscal year for small school system supplemental funding are not adequate to fully fund the program, the State Board of Education shall reduce the amount allocated to each county school administrative unit on a pro rata basis. This formula is solely a basis for distribution of supplemental funding for certain county school administrative units and is not intended to reflect any measure of the adequacy of the educational program or funding for public schools. The formula is also not intended to reflect any commitment by the General Assembly to appropriate any additional supplemental funds for such county school administrative units.

**SECTION 7.7.(b)** Nonsupplant Requirement. – A county in which a local school administrative unit receives funds under this section shall use the funds to supplement local current expense funds and shall not supplant local current expense funds. For the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the State Board of Education shall not allocate funds under this section to a county found to have used these funds to supplant local per student current expense funds. The State Board of Education shall make a finding that a county has used these funds to supplant local current expense funds in the prior year, or the year for which the most recent data are available, if:

- (1) The current expense appropriation per student of the county for the current year is less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the average of the local current expense appropriations per student for the three prior fiscal years; and
- (2) The county cannot show: (i) that it has remedied the deficiency in funding or (ii) that extraordinary circumstances caused the county to supplant local current expense funds with funds allocated under this section.

The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this section.

**SECTION 7.7.(c)** Phase-Out Provisions. – If a local school administrative unit becomes ineligible for funding under this formula because of (i) an increase in the population of the county in which the local school administrative unit is located or (ii) an increase in the county-adjusted property tax base per student of the county in which the local school administrative unit is located, funding for that unit shall be continued for seven years after the unit becomes ineligible.

**SECTION 7.7.(d)** Definitions. – As used in this section:

- (1) "Average daily membership" means within two percent (2%) of the average daily membership as defined in the North Carolina Public Schools Allotment Policy Manual adopted by the State Board of Education.
- (2) "County-adjusted property tax base per student" means the total assessed property valuation for each county, adjusted using a weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies, divided by the total number of students in average daily membership who reside within the county.
- (2a) "Local current expense funds" means the most recent county current expense appropriations to public schools, as reported by local boards

- of education in the audit report filed with the Secretary of the Local Government Commission pursuant to G.S. 115C-447.

  "Sales assessment ratio studies" means sales assessment ratio studies
  - "Sales assessment ratio studies" means sales assessment ratio studies performed by the Department of Revenue under G.S. 105-289(h).
  - (4) "State-adjusted property tax base per student" means the sum of all county-adjusted property tax bases divided by the total number of students in average daily membership who reside within the State.
  - (4a) "Supplant" means to decrease local per student current expense appropriations from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year.
  - (5) "Weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies" means the weighted average of the three most recent annual sales assessment ratio studies in the most recent years for which county current expense appropriations and adjusted property tax valuations are available. If real property in a county has been revalued one year prior to the most recent sales assessment ratio study, a weighted average of the two most recent sales assessment ratios shall be used. If property has been revalued during the year of the most recent sales assessment ratio study, the sales assessment ratio for the year of revaluation shall be used.

**SECTION 7.7.(e)** Reports. – The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee prior to May 1, 2008, if it determines that counties have supplanted funds.

**SECTION 7.7.(f)** Use of Funds. – Local boards of education are encouraged to use at least twenty percent (20%) of the funds they receive pursuant to this section to improve the academic performance of children who are performing at Level I or II on either reading or mathematics end-of-grade tests in grades 3-8 and children who are performing at Level I or II on the writing tests in grades 4 and 7. Local boards of education shall report to the State Board of Education on an annual basis on funds used for this purpose, and the State Board shall report this information to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. These reports shall specify how these funds were targeted and used to implement specific improvement strategies of each local school administrative unit and its schools such as teacher recruitment, closing the achievement gap, improving student accountability, addressing the needs of at-risk students, and establishing and maintaining safe schools.

#### DISADVANTAGED STUDENT SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

**SECTION 7.8.(a)** Funds are appropriated in this act to address the capacity needs of local school administrative units to meet the needs of disadvantaged students. Each local school administrative unit shall use funds allocated to it for disadvantaged student supplemental funding to implement a plan jointly developed by the unit and the LEA Assistance Program team. The plan shall be based upon the needs of students in the unit not achieving grade-level proficiency. The plan shall detail how these funds shall be used in conjunction with all other supplemental funding allotments such as Low-Wealth, Small County, At-Risk Student Services/Alternative Schools, and Improving Student Accountability, to provide instructional and other services that meet the educational needs of these students. Prior to the allotment of disadvantaged student supplemental funds, the plan shall be approved by the State Board of Education.

Funds received for disadvantaged student supplemental funding shall be used, consistent with the policies and procedures adopted by the State Board of Education, only to:

- (1) Provide instructional positions or instructional support positions and/or professional development;
- (2) Provide intensive in-school and/or after-school remediation;
- (3) Purchase diagnostic software and progress-monitoring tools; and
- Provide funds for teacher bonuses and supplements. The State Board of Education shall set a maximum percentage of the funds that may be used for this purpose.

The State Board of Education may require districts receiving funding under the Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Fund to purchase the Education Value Added Assessment System in order to provide in-depth analysis of student performance and help identify strategies for improving student achievement. This data shall be used exclusively for instructional and curriculum decisions made in the best interest of children and for professional development for their teachers and administrators.

**SECTION 7.8.(b)** Funds are appropriated in this act to evaluate the Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding Initiatives and Low-Wealth Initiatives. The State Board of Education shall use these funds to:

- (1) Evaluate the strategies implemented by local school administrative units with Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funds and Low-Wealth Funds and assess their impact on student performance; and
- (2) Evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the technical assistance and support provided to local school administrative units by the Department of Public Instruction.

The State Board of Education shall report the results of the evaluation to the Office of State Budget and Management, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division by January 15 of each year.

**SECTION 7.8.(c)** Funds appropriated to a local school administrative unit for disadvantaged student supplemental funding shall be allotted based on: (i) the local school administrative unit's eligible DSSF population and (ii) the difference between a teacher-to-student ratio of 1:21 and the following teacher-to-student ratios:

- (1) For counties with wealth greater than ninety percent (90%) of the statewide average, a ratio of 1:20;
- (2) For counties with wealth not less than eighty percent (80%) and not greater than ninety percent (90%) of the statewide average, a ratio of 1:19.5;
- (3) For counties with wealth less than eighty percent (80%) of the statewide average, a ratio of 1:18.8; and
- (4) For LEAs receiving DSSF funds in 2005-2006, a ratio of 1:16. These LEAs shall receive no less than the DSSF amount allotted in 2006-2007.

For the purpose of this subsection, wealth shall be calculated under the low-wealth supplemental formula.

**SECTION 7.8.(d)** If a local school administrative unit's wealth increases to a level that adversely affects the unit's DSSF allotment ratio, the DSSF allotment ratio for that unit shall be maintained at the prior year level for one additional fiscal year.

#### STUDENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

**SECTION 7.9.(a)** The State Board of Education shall develop guidelines for identifying and providing services to students with limited proficiency in the English language.

The State Board shall allocate these funds to local school administrative units and to charter schools under a formula that takes into account the average percentage of students in the units or the charters over the past three years who have limited English proficiency. The State Board shall allocate funds to a unit or a charter school only if (i) average daily membership of the unit or the charter school includes at least 20 students with limited English proficiency comprise at least two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the average daily membership of the unit or charter school. For the portion of the funds that is allocated on the basis of the number of identified students, the maximum number of identified students for whom a unit or charter school receives funds shall not exceed ten and six-tenths percent (10.6%) of its average daily membership.

Local school administrative units shall use funds allocated to them to pay for classroom teachers, teacher assistants, tutors, textbooks, classroom materials/instructional supplies/equipment, transportation costs, and staff development of teachers for students with limited English proficiency.

A county in which a local school administrative unit receives funds under this section shall use the funds to supplement local current expense funds and shall not supplant local current expense funds.

**SECTION 7.9.(b)** The Department of Public Instruction shall prepare a current head count of the number of students classified with limited English proficiency by December 1 of each year.

Students in the head count shall be assessed at least once every three years to determine their level of English proficiency. A student who scores "superior" on the standard English language proficiency assessment instrument used in this State shall not be included in the head count of students with limited English proficiency.

#### CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

**SECTION 7.10.** The State Board of Education shall allocate funds for children with disabilities on the basis of three thousand one hundred eighty-six dollars and fifty-seven cents (\$3,186.57) per child for a maximum of 172,317 children for the 2007-2008 school year. Each local school administrative unit shall receive funds for the lesser of (i) all children who are identified as children with disabilities or (ii) twelve and five-tenths percent (12.5%) of the 2007-2008 allocated average daily membership in the local school administrative unit.

The dollar amounts allocated under this section for children with disabilities shall also adjust in accordance with legislative salary increments, retirement rate adjustments, and health benefit adjustments for personnel who serve children with disabilities.

#### FUNDS FOR ACADEMICALLY GIFTED CHILDREN

**SECTION 7.11.** The State Board of Education shall allocate funds for academically or intellectually gifted children on the basis of one thousand forty-two dollars and fifty-three cents (\$1,042.53) per child. A local school administrative unit shall receive funds for a maximum of four percent (4%) of its 2007-2008 allocated average daily membership, regardless of the number of children identified as academically or intellectually gifted in the unit. The State Board shall allocate funds for no more than 58,470 children for the 2007-2008 school year.

The dollar amounts allocated under this section for academically or intellectually gifted children shall also adjust in accordance with legislative salary increments, retirement rate adjustments, and health benefit adjustments for personnel who serve academically or intellectually gifted children.

#### EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY

SECTION 7.12.(a) Funds appropriated for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years for Student Accountability Standards shall be used to assist students to perform at or above grade level in reading and mathematics in grades 3-8 as measured by the State's end-of-grade tests. The State Board of Education shall allocate these funds to local school administrative units based on the number of students who score at Level I or Level II on either reading or mathematics end-of-grade tests in grades 3-8. Funds in the allocation category shall be used to improve the academic performance of (i) students who are performing at Level I or II on either reading or mathematics end-of-grade tests in grades 3-8 or (ii) students who are performing at Level I or II on the writing tests in grades 4 and 7. These funds may also be used to improve the academic performance of students who are performing at Level I or II on the high school end-of-course tests. These funds shall not be transferred to other allocation categories or otherwise used for other purposes. Except as otherwise provided by law, local boards of education may transfer other funds available to them into this allocation category.

The principal of a school receiving these funds, in consultation with the faculty and the site-based management team, shall implement plans for expending these funds to improve the performance of students.

Local boards of education are encouraged to use federal funds such as Title I Comprehensive School Reform Development Funds and to examine the use of State funds to ensure that every student is performing at or above grade level in reading and mathematics.

These funds shall be allocated to local school administrative units for the 2007-2008 fiscal year within 30 days of the date this act becomes law.

**SECTION 7.12.(b)** Funds appropriated for Student Accountability Standards shall not revert at the end of each fiscal year but shall remain available for expenditure until August 31 of the subsequent fiscal year.

#### LITIGATION RESERVE FUNDS

**SECTION 7.13.** The State Board of Education may expend up to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) each year for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years from unexpended funds for certified employees' salaries to pay expenses related to pending litigation.

#### REPLACEMENT SCHOOL BUSES FUNDS

**SECTION 7.14.(a)** The State Board of Education may impose any of the following conditions on allotments to local boards of education for replacement school buses:

- (1) The local board of education shall use the funds only to make the first, second, or third year's payment on a financing contract entered into pursuant to G.S. 115C-528.
- (2) The term of a financing contract entered into under this section shall not exceed three years.
- (3) The local board of education shall purchase the buses only from vendors selected by the State Board of Education and on terms approved by the State Board of Education.
- (4) The Department of Administration, Division of Purchase and Contract, in cooperation with the State Board of Education, shall solicit bids for the direct purchase of school buses and activity buses and shall

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- establish a statewide term contract for use by the State Board of Education. Local boards of education and other agencies shall be eligible to purchase from the statewide term contract. The State Board of Education shall also solicit bids for the financing of school buses.
- A bus financed pursuant to this section shall meet all State and federal (5) motor vehicle safety regulations for school buses.
- Any other condition the State Board of Education considers (6) appropriate.

**SECTION 7.14.(b)** Any term contract for the purchase or lease-purchase of school buses or school activity buses shall not require vendor payment of the electronic procurement transaction fee of the North Carolina E-Procurement Service.

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#### DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN ANTICIPATED AND ACTUAL ADM

**SECTION 7.15.(a)** If the State Board of Education does not have sufficient resources in the ADM Contingency Reserve line item to make allotment adjustments in accordance with the Allotment Adjustments for ADM Growth provisions of the North Carolina Public Schools Allotment Policy Manual, the State Board of Education may use funds appropriated to State Aid for Public Schools for this purpose.

**SECTION 7.15.(b)** If the higher of the first or second month average daily membership in a local school administrative unit is at least two percent (2%) or 100 students lower than the anticipated average daily membership used for allotments for the unit, the State Board of Education shall reduce allotments for the unit. The reduced allotments shall be based on the higher of the first or second month average daily membership plus one-half of the number of students overestimated in the anticipated average daily membership.

The allotments reduced pursuant to this subsection shall include only those allotments that may be increased pursuant to the Allotment Adjustments for ADM Growth provisions of the North Carolina Public Schools Allotment Policy Manual.

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#### CHARTER SCHOOL EVALUATION

**SECTION 7.16.(a)** The State Board of Education may spend up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) a year from State Aid to Local School Administrative Units for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years to evaluate charter schools. In particular, the State Board of Education shall consider the extent to which charter schools have accomplished the following six objectives, which are set out in G.S. 115C-238.29A:

- Improve student learning; (1)
- Increase learning opportunities for all students, with special emphasis (2) on expanded learning experiences for students who are identified as at risk of academic failure or academically gifted;
- Encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods; (3)
- (4) Create new professional opportunities for teachers, including the opportunities to be responsible for the learning program at the school
- (5) Provide parents and students with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available within the public school system: and
- (6) Hold the schools established under this Part accountable for meeting measurable student achievement results and provide the schools with a method change from rule-based to performance-based accountability systems.

**SECTION 7.16.(b)** The State Board of Education shall report the results of its evaluation to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division.

#### MENTOR TEACHER FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR FULL-TIME MENTORS

**SECTION 7.17.(a)** The State Board of Education shall grant flexibility to a local board of education regarding the use of mentor funds to provide mentoring support, provided the local board submits a detailed plan on the use of the funds to the State Board and the State Board approves that plan. The plan shall include information on how all mentors in the local school administrative unit have been or will be adequately trained to provide mentoring support.

Local boards of education shall use funds allocated for mentor teachers to provide mentoring support to all State-paid newly certified teachers, second-year teachers who were assigned mentors during the prior school year, and entry-level instructional support personnel who have not previously been teachers.

**SECTION 7.17.(b)** The State Board, after consultation with the Professional Teaching Standards Commission, shall adopt standards for mentor training.

**SECTION 7.17.(c)** Each local board of education with a plan approved pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall report to the State Board on the impact of its mentor program on teacher retention. The State Board shall analyze these reports to determine the characteristics of mentor programs that are most effective in retaining teachers and shall report its findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 15 of each year of the biennium.

**SECTION 7.17.(d)** In addition to the report required in subsection (c) of this section, the State shall also evaluate the effectiveness of a representative sample of local mentor programs and report on its findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division by December 15 of each year of the biennium. The evaluation shall focus on quantitative evidence, quality of service delivery, and satisfaction of those involved. The report shall include the results of the evaluation and recommendations both for improving mentor programs generally and for an appropriate level of State support for mentor programs.

#### FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE ABCS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

**SECTION 7.18.(a)** The State Board of Education shall use funds appropriated in this act for State Aid to Local School Administrative Units to provide incentive funding for schools that met or exceeded the projected levels of improvement in student performance during the 2006-2007 school year, in accordance with the ABCs of Public Education Program. In accordance with State Board of Education policy:

- Incentive awards in schools that achieve higher than expected improvements may be:
  - Up to one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for each teacher and for certified personnel; and
  - Up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each teacher assistant.
- (2) Incentive awards in schools that meet the expected improvements may be:
  - Up to seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) for each teacher and a. for certified personnel; and
  - Up to three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$375.00) for each b. teacher assistant.

**SECTION 7.18.(b)** The State Board of Education may use funds appropriated to the State Public School Fund to implement the consolidated assistance program, as directed in Section 7.6(b) of S.L. 2006-66. The Board shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2008, on any restructuring of the program pursuant to this section.

#### LEARN AND EARN HIGH SCHOOLS

**SECTION 7.19.(a)** Funds are appropriated in this act for the Learn and Earn high school workforce development program. The purpose of the program is to create rigorous and relevant high school options that provide students with the opportunity and assistance to earn an associate degree or two years of college credit by the conclusion of the year after their senior year in high school. The State Board of Education shall work closely with the Education Cabinet and the New Schools Project in administering the program.

**SECTION 7.19.(b)** These funds shall be used to establish new high schools in which a local school administrative unit, two- and four-year colleges and universities, and local employers work together to ensure that high school and postsecondary college curricula operate seamlessly and meet the needs of participating employers.

Funds shall not be allotted until Learn and Earn high schools are certified as operational.

**SECTION 7.19.(c)** During the first year of its operation, a high school established under G.S. 115C-238.50 shall be allotted a principal regardless of the number of State-paid teachers assigned to the school or the number of students enrolled in the school. The budget flexibility authorized by G.S. 115C-105.25 does not apply to these positions.

**SECTION 7.19.(d)** The State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Board of Community Colleges and The University of North Carolina Board of Governors, shall conduct an annual evaluation of this program. The evaluation shall include measures as identified in G.S. 115C-238.55. It shall also include: (i) an accounting of how funds and personnel resources were utilized and their impact on student achievement, retention, and employability; (ii) recommended statutory and policy changes; and (iii) recommendations for improvement of the program. The State Board of Education shall report the results of this evaluation to the Office of State Budget and Management, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division by January 15 of each fiscal year.

**SECTION 7.19.(e)** Enrollment fees and tuition for The University of North Carolina courses in which Learn and Earn students are enrolled are allowable uses of these funds. Tuition costs may include laboratory fees assessed to all students enrolled in the course or a similar course.

**SECTION 7.19.(f)** Textbooks required for college courses in which Learn and Earn students are enrolled may be purchased with these funds.

**SECTION 7.19.(g)** Payment of fees from these funds by local school administrative units to partnering community colleges and universities are restricted to technology or course fees. Funds appropriated in this act shall not be used to support the cost of athletic or other student activity or campus fees not required by enrollment in a specific course.

**SECTION 7.19.(h)** The State Board of Education shall allot funds for university enrollment, tuition and fees, and textbooks on the basis of and after verification of the credit hour enrollment of Learn and Earn students in university courses. The State Board of Education shall allot funds for community college fees and textbooks on the basis of and after verification of the credit hour enrollment of Learn and Earn students in community college courses.

#### NORTH CAROLINA VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

**SECTION 7.20.(a)** The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) program shall report to the State Board of Education and shall maintain an administrative office at the Department of Public Instruction.

**SECTION 7.20.(b)** The Director of NCVPS shall continue to ensure that course quality standards are established and met and that all e-learning opportunities offered by State-funded entities to public school students are consolidated under the North Carolina Virtual Public School Program, eliminating course duplication.

**SECTION 7.20.(c)** Subsequent to course consolidation, the Director shall prioritize e-learning course offerings for students residing in rural and low-wealth county LEAs, in order to expand available instructional opportunities. First-available e-learning instructional opportunities should include courses required as part of the standard course of study for high school graduation and AP offerings not otherwise available.

**SECTION 7.20.(d)** The State Board of Education shall implement an allotment formula developed pursuant to Section 7.16(d) of S.L. 2006-66, for funding e-learning, effective in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

**SECTION 7.20.(e)** The North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) shall be available at no cost to all students in North Carolina who are enrolled in North Carolina's public schools, Department of Defense schools, and schools operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Department of Public Instruction shall communicate to local school administrative units all applicable guidelines regarding the enrollment of nonpublic school students in these courses.

#### SMALL RESTRUCTURED HIGH SCHOOLS

**SECTION 7.21.** The State Board of Education shall report to the Office of State Budget and Management, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than January 15 of each year on the results of its evaluation of the small, restructured high school program. The evaluation shall include measures as identified in G.S. 115C-238.55. It shall also include: (i) an accounting of how funds and personnel resources were utilized and their impact on student achievement, retention, and employability; and (ii) recommendations for improvement of the program.

#### NC WISE POSITIONS

**SECTION 7.22.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, the State Board of Education may, subject to the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of Information Technology Services, and after consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, use funds appropriated in this act for NC WISE to create a maximum of 10 positions and incur expenditures necessary to maintain and administer the NC WISE system within the Department of Public Instruction.

# 21ST CENTURY LITERACY COACHES

**SECTION 7.23.(a)** Funds are appropriated in this act to support the selection and hiring of 60 new literacy coaches. Coaches shall be hired and placed in 60 middle schools or other public schools with an eighth grade class. The State Board of Education, in consultation with the North Carolina Teacher Academy, shall develop a site selection process including formal criteria. The site must receive formal approval by the State Board of Education to receive funds for this purpose. To be selected schools must:

(1) Contain an eighth grade class, and

(2) Ensure that literacy coaches will have no administrative responsibilities in the schools in which they are placed.

**SECTION 7.23.(b)** National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certified teachers serving in these positions shall be exempt from the requirements in G.S. 115C-296.2(b)(2)d and shall remain on the NBPTS teacher salary schedule.

## MORE AT FOUR PROGRAM AND OFFICE OF SCHOOL READINESS

**SECTION 7.24.(a)** The Department of Public Instruction shall continue the implementation of the "More at Four" prekindergarten program for at-risk four-year-olds who are at risk of failure in kindergarten. The program is available statewide to all counties that choose to participate, including underserved areas. The goal of the program is to provide quality prekindergarten services to a greater number of at-risk children in order to enhance kindergarten readiness for these children. The program shall be consistent with standards and assessments established jointly by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction. The program shall include:

- (1) A process and system for identifying children at risk of academic failure.
- (2) A process and system for identifying children who are not being served in formal early education programs, such as child care, public or private preschools, Head Start, Early Head Start, early intervention programs, or other such programs, who demonstrate educational needs, and who are eligible to enter kindergarten the next school year, as well as children who are underserved.
- (3) A curriculum or several curricula that are research-based and/or built on sound instructional theory. These curricula shall: (i) focus primarily on oral language and emergent literacy; (ii) engage children through key experiences and provide background knowledge requisite for formal learning and successful reading in the early elementary years; (iii) involve active learning; (iv) promote measurable kindergarten language-readiness skills that focus on emergent literacy and mathematical skills; and (v) develop skills that will prepare children emotionally and socially for kindergarten.
- (4) An emphasis on ongoing family involvement with the prekindergarten program.
- (5) Evaluation of child progress through a statewide evaluation, as well as ongoing assessment of the children by teachers.
- (6) Guidelines for a system to reimburse local school boards and systems, private child care providers, and other entities willing to establish and provide prekindergarten programs to serve at-risk children.
- (7) A system built upon existing local school boards and systems, private child care providers, and other entities that demonstrate the ability to establish or expand prekindergarten capacity.
- (8) A quality-control system. Participating providers shall comply with standards and guidelines as established by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction. The Department may use the child care rating system to assist in determining program participation.

- (9) Standards for minimum teacher qualifications. A portion of the classroom sites initially funded shall have at least one teacher who is certified or provisionally certified in birth-to-kindergarten education.
- (10) A local contribution. Programs must demonstrate that they are accessing resources other than "More at Four."
- (11) A system of accountability.
- (12) Consideration of the reallocation of existing funds. In order to maximize current funding and resources, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall consider the reallocation of existing funds from State and local programs that provide prekindergarten-related care and services.

SECTION 7.24.(b) The Department of Public Instruction shall implement a plan to expand "More at Four" program standards within existing resources to include four- and five-star-rated centers and schools serving four-year-olds and develop guidelines for these programs. The "NC Prekindergarten Program Standards" initiative shall recognize four- and five-star-rated centers that choose to apply and meet equivalent "More at Four" program standards as high quality pre-k classrooms. Classrooms meeting these standards shall have access to training and workshops for "More at Four" programs. Whenever expansion slots are available, these classrooms shall have first priority to receive them.

The "More at Four" program shall review the number of slots filled by counties on a monthly basis and shift the unfilled slots to counties with waiting lists. The shifting of slots shall occur through January 31 of each year, at which time any remaining funds for slots unfilled shall be used to meet the needs of the waiting list for subsidized child care.

**SECTION 7.24.(c)** The Department of Public Instruction shall submit a report by February 1, 2008, to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, and the Fiscal Research Division. This final report shall include the following:

- (1) The number of children participating in the program.
- (2) The number of children participating in the program who have never been served in other early education programs, such as child care, public or private preschool, Head Start, Early Head Start, or early intervention programs.
- (3) The expected expenditures for the programs and the source of the local match for each grantee.
- (4) The location of program sites and the corresponding number of children participating in the program at each site.
- (5) A comprehensive cost analysis of the program, including the cost per child served by the program.
- (6) The status of the NC Prekindergarten initiatives as outlined in this section.

**SECTION 7.24.(d)** For the 2007-2008 and the 2008-2009 fiscal years, the "More at Four" program shall establish income eligibility requirements for the program not to exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of the State median income. Up to twenty percent (20%) of children enrolled may have family incomes in excess of seventy-five percent (75%) of median income if they have other designated risk factors.

**SECTION 7.24.(e)** The "More at Four" program funding shall not supplant any funding for classrooms serving four-year-olds as of the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

Support of existing four-year-old classrooms with "More at Four" program funding shall be permitted when current funding is eliminated, reduced, or redirected as required to meet other specified federal or State educational mandates.

# ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING FOR TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM

**SECTION 7.25.(a)** G.S. 115C-363.23A(f) reads as rewritten:

"(f) All funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Teaching Fellows Program for scholarships, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all interest earned on these funds, shall be placed in a revolving fund. This revolving fund shall be used for scholarship loans granted under the Teaching Fellows Program. With the prior approval of the General Assembly in the Current Operations Appropriations Act, the revolving fund may also be used for campus and summer program support, and costs related to disbursement of awards and collection of loan repayments.

With the prior approval of the General Assembly in the Current Operations Appropriations Act, the revolving fund may also be used by the The Public School Forum, as administrator for the Teaching Fellows Program, for Program, may use up to eight hundred ten thousand dollars (\$810,000) annually from the fund balance for costs associated with administration of the Teaching Fellows Program."

**SECTION 7.25.(b)** The funding provided for in this section shall be used to meet current administrative expenses of the Program and continue minority recruitment initiatives.

**SECTION 7.25.(c)** The Teaching Fellows Program shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 15, 2008, on:

- (1) Actual expenditures for the 2006-2007 fiscal year and budgeted expenditures for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for administration of the Program and
- (2) Initiatives to recruit minorities to the Program.

**SECTION 7.25.(d)** The General Assembly urges the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Commission to use funds available in the revolving fund to establish additional teaching fellows scholarships.

#### NO COST SUMMER SCHOOL OR OTHER REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES

**SECTION 7.26.(a)** G.S. 115C-105.41 prohibits charging tuition or fees to Students at Risk for Academic Failure. Effective July 1, 2007, local school administrative units shall formally communicate to at-risk students and their parents or guardians that there will be no charge for participation in intervention activities/practices offered by the local school administrative units to at-risk students, or for transportation necessary for participation in the intervention activities.

**SECTION 7.26.(b)** Effective July 1, 2007, local school administrative units shall formally communicate to students and their parents or guardians that tuition and fees will not be charged for summer school courses that are required for remediation or courses that are necessary for the student to meet graduation requirements.

#### LEARN AND EARN ONLINE

**SECTION 7.27.(a)** Funds are appropriated in this act for the Learn and Earn Online program. This program will allow high school students to enroll in college courses to qualify for college credit. Online courses will be made available to students through The University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System.

**SECTION 7.27.(b)** Funds shall be used for course tuition, and only those technology and course fees, and textbooks required for course participation. Funds shall

also support a liaison position to be housed at the Department of Public Instruction to coordinate with The University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System, and to communicate course availability and related information to high school administrators, teachers, and counselors.

**SECTION 7.27.(c)** The State Board of Education shall determine the allocation of Learn and Earn Online course offerings across the State.

**SECTION 7.27.(d)** The State Board of Education shall allot funds for tuition, fees, and textbooks on the basis of and after verification of the credit hour enrollment of high school students in Learn and Earn Online courses. Community college student enrollments in Learn and Earn Online shall not be considered as a regular budget full-time equivalent (FTE) in the curriculum enrollment formula, but shall be accounted for separately and funds shall be allotted as a special allotment.

**SECTION 7.27.(e)** The University of North Carolina program shall report to The University of North Carolina Board of Governors, and the North Carolina Community College program shall report to the North Carolina Community College Board of Trustees. The Department of Public Instruction shall report to the State Board of Education.

**SECTION 7.27.(f)** Both The University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System shall provide oversight and coordination, including coordination with the Department of Public Instruction, and with the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) to avoid course duplication.

**SECTION 7.27.(g)** Course quality and rigor standards shall be established, and each program shall conduct course evaluations to ensure that the online courses made available to students meet the established standards.

**SECTION 7.27.(h)** The State Board of Education, The University of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Community College System shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than April 15, 2008, on the implementation of the program for the 2007-2008 school year and the proposed operating plan for the 2008-2009 school year. The report shall include the number of students enrolled in courses under the Learn and Earn Online program and the number of students who completed courses during the fall semester of the 2007-2008 school year.

#### SCHOOL CONNECTIVITY INITIATIVE

**SECTION 7.28.(a)** Funds in the amount of twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) are appropriated in this act to support the enhancement of the technology infrastructure for public schools. These funds shall be used for broadband access, equipment, and support services that create, improve, and sustain equity of access for instructional opportunities for public school students and educators.

**SECTION 7.28.(b)** The State Board of Education shall contract with an entity that has the capacity of serving as the administrator of the School Connectivity Initiative. The funds appropriated in this act shall be used to implement a plan approved by the State Board of Education to enhance the technology infrastructure for public schools that supports teaching and learning in the classrooms. The plan shall include the following components:

(1) A business plan with time lines, clearly defined outcomes, and an operational model, including a governance structure, personnel, e-Rate reimbursement, support services to local school administrative units and schools, and budget.

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- (2) Assurances that local school administrative units will upgrade internal networks in schools, provide technology tools, and support for teachers and students to use technology to improve teaching and learning.
- (3) Assurances of a fair and open bidding and contracting process.
- (4) Technology assessment site survey template.
- (5) Documentation of technology assessments.
- (6) Documentation of how the technology will be used to enhance teaching in learning.
- (7) The number, location, and schedule of sites to be served in 2007-2008 and in 2008-2009.

**SECTION 7.28.(c)** The State Board of Education shall report by January 15, 2008, on its progress towards achieving the connectivity initiative and annually thereafter to the Joint Legislative Information Technology Oversight Committee, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Office of State Budget Management, the State Information Technology Officer, and the Fiscal Research Division.

# REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**SECTION 7.29.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, the Department of Public Instruction may reorganize in accordance with the plan adopted by the State Board of Education. The Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the reorganization.

**SECTION 7.29.(b)** This section expires June 30, 2008.

# LEGISLATIVE STUDY ON EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

**SECTION 7.30.(a)** There is created the Legislative Study Commission on Early Childhood Programs ("Commission"). The Commission shall consist of 12 members appointed as follows:

- (1) Six members appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to include:
  - a. Four members of the House of Representatives.
  - b. Two members of the general public.
- (2) Six members appointed by the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, to include:
  - a. Four members of the Senate.
  - b. Two members of the general public.

## **SECTION 7.30.(b)** The Commission shall:

- (1) Assess the feasibility and desirability of consolidating the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., and the "More At Four" program.
- (2) Consider any needed adjustments and the necessary reprioritization of funds to realize the maximum benefit to the State's children and families.
- (3) Review any other matters the Commission deems relevant to its charge.

**SECTION 7.30.(c)** The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each appoint a cochair for the Commission. The Commission may contract for consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer

shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Commission. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Commission through the offices of the House of Representatives and the Senate Directors of Legislative Assistants. The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building upon the approval of the Legislative Services Commission. Members of the Commission shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances at the rate established in G.S. 120-3.1. The appointing authority shall fill vacancies. The Commission, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all the powers provided under the provisions of G.S. 120-19 through G.S. 120-19.4, including the power to request all officers, agents, agencies, and departments of the State to provide any information, data, or documents within their possession, ascertainable from their records, or otherwise available to them and the power to subpoena witnesses.

**SECTION 7.30.(d)** The Commission shall report to the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly. The report shall include findings, recommendations, and legislative proposals. The Commission shall terminate upon filing its final report.

## STUDY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULAS

**SECTION 7.31.(a)** There is created the Joint Legislative Study Committee on Public School Funding Formulas. The Committee shall consist of six members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and six members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint a cochair, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint a cochair for the Committee.

The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.

Subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Committee may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Committee in its work. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors of Clerks shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by the Committee.

**SECTION 7.31.(b)** The Committee shall perform an extensive study of the following public school funding formulas:

- (1) Children with Disabilities;
- (2) Limited English Proficiency;
- (3) At-Risk Student Services/Alternative Schools;
- (4) Improving Student Accountability;
- (5) Disadvantaged Students Supplemental;
- (6) Low-Wealth Counties Supplemental Funding;
- (7) Small County Supplemental Funding; and
- (8) Transportation of Pupils.

**SECTION 7.31.(c)** The Committee shall also study the State Board of Education's model for projecting average daily membership and focus particularly on how well the model projects average daily membership in rapidly growing local school administrative units with a highly mobile population.

**SECTION 7.31.(d)** The Committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any legislative recommendations, to the 2008 Regular

Session of the 2007 General Assembly. The Committee shall terminate upon filing its report.

#### **DROPOUT PREVENTION GRANTS**

**SECTION 7.32.(a)** The Commission on Dropout Prevention is established. The Commission shall be located administratively in the Department of Public Instruction but shall exercise its powers and duties independently of the Department of Public Instruction. The Commission shall administer funds appropriated for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium for dropout prevention grants. In administering the funds, the Commission shall consider the likelihood that a program will be effective in preventing students from dropping out of school and the likelihood that a program will serve as an effective model for other programs.

**SECTION 7.32.(b)** The Commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor, five members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and five members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The appointments by the General Assembly shall be made in accordance with G.S. 120-121, and vacancies in these appointments shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-122.

**SECTION 7.32.(c)** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall make recommendations to the Commission on guidelines and procedures for determining which local school administrative units, schools, or agencies shall receive dropout prevention grants, the amount of each grant, eligible uses of the grant funding, how funded projects will be evaluated, and other matters. The Commission shall consider the recommendations of the Subcommittee in developing and adopting its guidelines and procedures on dropout prevention grants.

Grants shall be distributed geographically throughout the State. The Commission shall distribute grant funds in time for grantee programs to begin implementation during the 2007-2008 school year.

**SECTION 7.32.(d)** Of funds appropriated for dropout prevention grants, the Commission may use up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to establish up to two positions to support administration of these grants.

**SECTION 7.32.(e)** The Commission shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 15, 2008, on grants distributed for the 2007-2008 school year.

#### SCHOOL SAFETY OFFICERS

 **SECTION 7.33.** G.S. 115C-105.47(b) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

 "(b) Each plan shall include each of the following components:

A statement of the number of school safety officers, if any, that will be assigned to each middle school and high school. State funds allocated in the At-Risk/Alternative Schools Allotment shall be used to provide at least one school safety officer for each middle school and high school, except for charter schools, unless the State Board of Education waives this requirement. The Board shall waive the requirement only if the local school administrative unit demonstrates that a school has an alternative plan for providing a safety officer or for otherwise addressing its safety needs."

#### HIGH PRIORITY SCHOOLS

**SECTION 7.34.(a)** The State Board of Education may develop a policy for a two-year phaseout of the special supplementary funding currently provided to the two remaining high priority elementary schools and may use funds in the ADM Contingency Reserve to support any additional cost of the two-year phaseout.

**SECTION 7.34.(b)** The State Board of Education shall not use funds appropriated for State Aid to Local Administrative Units to contract with an outside organization to evaluate the high priority schools initiative begun in the 2001-2002 fiscal year. The Board may, however, use up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) previously identified for this purpose to support the ongoing evaluation of the Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding Initiative.

#### **DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**SECTION 7.35.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, the State Board of Education may use monies from the State Public School Fund in the 2007-2008 fiscal year only to pay for the additional costs associated with an increased number of registration fees for students enrolling in Distance Education courses.

#### **CHILD NUTRITION OPERATING FUNDS**

**SECTION 7.36.** The State Board of Education shall establish a reimbursement formula for lunches served in elementary schools to help offset the cost of the lunches. This reimbursement shall be in addition to the amount of federal reimbursement for free and reduced-price lunches served.

#### **FUNDS FOR SCIENCE COMPETITIONS**

**SECTION 7.37.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Public Instruction as a pass through for science competitions:

- (1) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be used to provide additional funding for Science Olympiad; and
- (2) The sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated to the North Carolina Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Center, Inc. to support the establishment of new interscholastic science competitions.

# FUNDS FOR PRINCIPAL MENTORS AND FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA NETWORK FOR SCHOOL BASED MANAGEMENT

**SECTION 7.38.(a)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, of the funds appropriated to the State Public School Fund in this act, the sum of two million five hundred sixty-three thousand dollars (\$2,563,000) in recurring expansion funds shall be used for principal mentors for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

**SECTION 7.38.(b)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, of the funds appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction, the sum of three hundred twelve thousand dollars (\$312,000) in recurring expansion funds shall be allocated as a pass-through for the North Carolina Network for School Based Management for the 2007-2008 and the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The North Carolina Network for School

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Based Management provides training for school-based management teams to improve the capacity of local administrative units by helping them use data to develop and monitor achievement-focused plans. Local school administrative units may contract with this nonprofit using allotments that can be expended for professional development.

#### PART VIII. COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## USE OF FUNDS FOR THE COLLEGE INFORMATION SYSTEM PROJECT

**SECTION 8.1.(a)** Funds appropriated to the Community Colleges System Office for the College Information System Project shall not revert at the end of the 2006-2007 fiscal year but shall remain available until expended.

SECTION 8.1.(b) Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, the Community Colleges System Office may, subject to the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of Information Technology Services, and after consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, use funds appropriated in this act for the College Information System Project to create a maximum of 10 positions or incur expenditures necessary to transfer the maintenance and administration of the College Information System Project from the vendor to the System Office. Personnel positions created pursuant to this subsection shall be located in community colleges across the State.

**SECTION 8.1.(c)** The Community Colleges System Office shall report on a quarterly basis to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the implementation of the College Information System Project.

**SECTION 8.1.(d)** Subsection (a) of this section becomes effective June 30, 2007.

# CARRYFORWARD OF EQUIPMENT FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**SECTION 8.2.(a)** Subject to the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management and cash availability, the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office may carry forward an amount not to exceed ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) of the operating funds that were not reverted in fiscal year 2006-2007 to be reallocated to the State Board of Community Colleges' Equipment Reserve Fund. These funds shall be distributed to colleges consistent with G.S. 115D-31.

**SECTION 8.2.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2007.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION FORMULA

**SECTION 8.3.** The State Board of Community Colleges shall develop a new funding formula for library books and related instructional resources before distributing funds appropriated for this purpose for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium. The revised instructional resource allocation formula shall reflect the availability of online subscription resources and electronic media and should include a base amount per college.

#### REPORT ON NCCCS DISTANCE LEARNING AND ONLINE CAPABILITIES

**SECTION 8.4.** The Community Colleges System Office shall report by March 1, 2008, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Office of State Budget and Management on its efforts regarding distance learning opportunities. This report shall complement the report authorized by the General Assembly in Part 6 of S.L. 2004-179 and shall address the following:

- (1) The expenditure of funds appropriated in this act for bandwidth at community colleges, including a description of each community college's current bandwidth capacity;
- (2) A five-year history of the number of courses offered and number of FTE students served through distance learning;
- (3) Results from student and instructor evaluations of distance learning courses;
- (4) Current and anticipated future joint efforts between the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina and North Carolina private colleges, regarding distance learning; and
- (5) Analysis of necessary changes or enhancements to improve the sharing of distance learning and online opportunities with The University of North Carolina and the Department of Public Instruction.

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY SALARY PLAN

**SECTION 8.5.(a)** It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a community college faculty salary plan that (i) provides accountability to the General Assembly, (ii) maintains local flexibility and autonomy for the community colleges, and (iii) ensures that community college faculty members have a uniform minimum salary based on level of education, equivalent applicable experience, or both.

**SECTION 8.5.(b)** The minimum salaries for community college faculty shall be based on the following education levels:

- (1) Vocational Diploma/Certificate or Less. This education level includes faculty members who are high school graduates, have vocational diplomas, or have completed one year of college.
- (2) Associate Degree or Equivalent. This education level includes faculty members who have an associate degree or have completed two or more years of college but have no degree.
- (3) Bachelor's Degree.
- (4) Master's Degree or Education Specialist.
- (5) Doctoral Degree.

**SECTION 8.5.(c)** For the 2007-2008 school year, the minimum salaries for nine-month, full-time, curriculum community college faculty shall be as follows:

Education Level	Minimum Salary
Vocational Diploma/Certificate or Less	\$33,314
Associate Degree or Equivalent	\$33,805
Bachelor's Degree	\$35,931
Master's Degree or Education Specialist	\$37,817
Doctoral Degree	\$40,537.

No full-time faculty member shall earn less than the minimum salary for his or her education level.

The pro rata hourly rate of the minimum salary for each education level shall be used to determine the minimum salary for part-time faculty members.

#### **SECTION 8.5.(d)**

- (1) It is the intent of the General Assembly to encourage community colleges to make faculty salaries a priority and to reward colleges that have taken steps to achieve the national average, therefore:
  - a. If the average faculty salary at a community college is one hundred percent (100%) or more of the national average community college faculty salary, the college may transfer up

- to eight percent (8%) of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries.
- b. If the average faculty salary at a community college is at least ninety-five percent (95%) but less than one hundred percent (100%) of the national average community college faculty salary, the college may transfer up to six percent (6%) of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries.
- c. If the average faculty salary at a community college is at least ninety percent (90%) but less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the national average community college faculty salary, the college may transfer up to five percent (5%) of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries.
- d. If the average faculty salary at a community college is at least eighty-five percent (85%) but less than ninety percent (90%) of the national average community college faculty salary, the college may transfer up to three percent (3%) of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries.
- e. If the average faculty salary at a community college is eighty-five percent (85%) or less of the national average community college faculty salary, the college may transfer up to two percent (2%) of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries.

Except as provided by subdivision (2) of this subsection, a community college shall not transfer a greater percentage of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries than is authorized by this subsection.

(2) With the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges, a community college at which the average faculty salary is eighty-five percent (85%) or less of the national average may transfer a greater percentage of the State funds allocated to it for faculty salaries than is authorized by sub-subdivision e. of subdivision (1) of this subsection. The State Board shall approve the transfer only for purposes that directly affect student services.

The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt guidelines to implement the provisions of this subdivision.

(3) A local community college may use all State funds allocated to it except for Literacy Funds and Funds for New and Expanding Industries to increase faculty salaries.

# **SECTION 8.5.(e)** As used in this section:

- (1) "Average faculty salary at a community college" means the total nine-month salary from all sources of all nine-month, full-time, curriculum faculty at the college, as determined by the North Carolina Community College System on October 1 of each year.
- (2) "National average community college faculty salary" means the nine-month, full-time, curriculum salary average, as published by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), for the most recent year for which data are available.

**SECTION 8.5.(f)** The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt guidelines to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 8.5.(g) The State Board of Community Colleges shall report to the appropriations subcommittees on education, the Speaker of the House of

Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Office of State Budget and Management by December 1, 2007, and every year thereafter through December 1, 2009, on the implementation of this section.

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# SUSPEND APPROVAL OF NEW MULTICAMPUS CENTERS

**SECTION 8.6.** The State Board of Community Colleges shall not approve the establishment of any additional multicampus centers during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall conduct a study of the proliferation of multicampus center locations. This study shall determine the appropriateness of the current process and criteria outlined in State Board policy for approving multicampus center designations. The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall specifically consider whether the establishment of additional multicampuses should be subject to General Assembly approval.

# **COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONNECTIVITY FUNDS**

**SECTION 8.7.** In expending funds appropriated for increasing the bandwidth capacity among the colleges of the North Carolina Community College System, the Community Colleges System Office shall seek the best value among information technology providers in order to maximize online instruction, provide accurate data transmission, and utilize video services.

#### STUDY OF BASIC SKILLS FORMULA

**SECTION 8.8.** The General Assembly finds that the formula budget computation of State funds for the Basic Skills Block Grant has not been reviewed or modified for at least two decades and that there are potential changes in the allocation of federal funds for literacy education through the Workforce Investment Act, Title II. Therefore, the General Assembly directs the State Board of Community Colleges to make findings and recommendations for a new formula budget computation for the Basic Skills Block Grant. The Community Colleges System Office shall report these findings and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division by March 31, 2008.

#### REALIGNMENT OF STATE AID ALLOCATIONS

**SECTION 8.9.** The State Board of Community Colleges shall examine new State Aid allocation options that more closely align the allocation and expenditure of State-appropriated resources. The State Board shall realign the 2007-2008 formula budget computation to incorporate the Academic Support Supplement into the Institutional Support Formula.

#### COMMUNITY COLLEGES FACILITIES AND EOUIPMENT FUNDS

**SECTION 8.10.(a)** Funds in the amount of twelve million three hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$12,370,000) are appropriated in this act for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to the Community College Facilities and Equipment Fund. These funds shall be used to award grants to community colleges for facility and equipment needs. The Community Colleges System Office, in consultation with the State Board of Community Colleges, shall develop a competitive grant application process and guidelines for facility or equipment needs. The State Board of Community Colleges shall award grants on the merit of the applications received. Priority shall be given to projects in low-wealth counties, to projects that have a high potential for promoting economic growth in economically depressed areas, and to projects at colleges that did not receive a grant during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Also, projects shall be distributed

geographically throughout the State. No individual grant may exceed the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

These grants shall be awarded on a matching basis of one State dollar (\$1.00) for every one non-State dollar (\$1.00).

**SECTION 8.10.(b)** Beginning September 1, 2007, the Community Colleges System Office shall submit a report to the Office of State Budget and Management and the Fiscal Research Division containing the following information about each grant that was awarded: (i) the name of the community college; (ii) a description of the project; (iii) the project location; (iv) the cost-benefit analysis conducted by the Community Colleges System Office and the rationale for awarding the grant; and (v) the amount of the grant.

# FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MINORITY MALE MENTORING PROGRAM

**SECTION 8.11.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, the sum of six hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$630,000) in nonrecurring expansion funds is appropriated in this act to the Community Colleges System Office for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to expand the minority male mentoring program to 20 additional community colleges.

#### PART IX. UNIVERSITIES

# NC SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ENROLLMENT GROWTH FORMULA

**SECTION 9.1.** The Office of State Budget and Management jointly with The University of North Carolina and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly shall conduct a study to create a formula for enrollment growth at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. This formula shall be used to calculate the amount of funds needed for enrollment growth for the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. The formula shall also be used for calculating the enrollment growth funding request to be submitted to the 2008 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

#### REPORTING ON UNC FACULTY WORKLOAD

**SECTION 9.2.(a)** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall conduct a study on faculty workload at The University of North Carolina. The study shall be done using the Delaware Study Method of collecting data. Information in the report shall include all of the following:

- (1) The faculty workload data for each constituent institution of The University of North Carolina compared to The University of North Carolina enrollment model.
- (2) The University of North Carolina faculty workload average as compared to The University of North Carolina enrollment model student credit hours per instructional position.
- (3) The faculty workload of regional and peer institutions as compared to each constituent institution faculty average and to The University of North Carolina faculty workload average.

**SECTION 9.2.(b)** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall submit the study report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than March 1, 2008.

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## USE OF ESCHEAT FUND FOR NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

**SECTION 9.3.(a)** There is appropriated from the Escheat Fund income to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of seventy-five million six hundred thirty-eight thousand sixteen dollars (\$75,638,016) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of seventy-five million six hundred thirty-eight thousand sixteen dollars (\$75,638,016) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. appropriated from the Escheat Fund income to the State Board of Community Colleges the sum of thirteen million nine hundred eighty-one thousand two hundred two dollars (\$13,981,202) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of thirteen million nine hundred eighty-one thousand two hundred two dollars (\$13,981,202) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. There is appropriated from the Escheat Fund income to the Department of Administration, Division of Veterans Affairs, the sum of six million two hundred twenty-eight thousand six hundred thirty-three dollars (\$6,228,633) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of six million five hundred twenty thousand nine hundred sixty-four dollars (\$6,520,964) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The funds appropriated by this subsection shall be allocated by the State Educational Assistance Authority for need-based student financial aid in accordance with G.S. 116B-7.

If the interest income generated from the Escheat Fund is less than the amounts referenced in this subsection, the difference may be taken from the Escheat Fund principal to reach the appropriations referenced in this subsection; however, under no circumstances shall the Escheat Fund principal be reduced below the sum of four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000).

**SECTION 9.3.(b)** The North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) shall perform all of the administrative functions necessary to implement this program of financial aid. The SEAA shall conduct periodic evaluations of expenditures of the Scholarship Programs to determine if allocations are utilized to ensure access to institutions of higher learning and to meet the goals of the respective programs. SEAA may make recommendations for redistribution of funds to The University of North Carolina, Department of Administration, and the Community College System regarding the respective scholarship programs, and then may authorize redistribution of unutilized funds for a particular fiscal year.

**SECTION 9.3.(c)** There is appropriated from the Escheat Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one million one hundred fifty-seven thousand dollars (\$1,157,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one million one hundred fifty-seven thousand dollars (\$1,157,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to be allocated to the SEAA for need-based student financial aid to be used in accordance with G.S. 116B-7 and this act. The SEAA shall use these funds only to provide scholarship loans (known as the Millennium Teaching Scholarship Loan Program) to North Carolina high school seniors interested in preparing to teach in the State's public schools who also enroll at any of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities that do not have Teaching Fellows. An allocation of 20 grants of six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500) each shall be given to Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, and Winston-Salem State University, the three universities without any Teaching Fellows, for the purposes specified in this subsection. The SEAA shall administer these funds and shall establish any additional criteria needed to award these scholarship loans, the conditions for forgiving the loans, and the collection of the loan repayments when necessary.

**SECTION 9.3.(d)** All obligations to students for uses of the funds set out in this section that were made prior to the effective date of this section shall be fulfilled as to students who remain eligible under the provisions of the respective programs.

#### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

**SECTION 9.4.(a)** Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 116-40.9. Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program.

- (a) Administration of Medical Scholarship Loan Program. The Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program was established by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina. The Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program operates under the purview of the Board of Governors and is administered by the Board of Governors.
- (b) Medical Scholarship Loan Program. Pursuant to this section, the Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Loan Program may provide a four-year scholarship loan of relevant tuition and fees, mandatory medical insurance, required laptop computers, and an annual stipend of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year to any student who has been accepted for admission to the Duke University School of Medicine, the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, or the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.
- (c) Criteria for Awarding Scholarship Loans. The Board of Governors may adopt standards, including minimum grade point average and scholastic aptitude test scores, for awarding these scholarship loans to ensure that only the most qualified students receive them. The Board of Governors shall make an effort to identify and encourage minority and economically disadvantaged youth to enter the program.
- (d) Terms of Scholarship Loans. All awards made under this section shall be made as scholarship loans and shall be evidenced by notes made payable to the Board of Governors that shall bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per year beginning September 1 after completion of the program, or immediately after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever is earlier. The scholarship loan may be terminated by the recipient withdrawing from school or by the recipient not meeting the standards set by the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation, the recipient practices medicine in North Carolina for four years. The Board of Governors shall also forgive the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the recipient to practice medicine in North Carolina for four years, within seven years after graduation, because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient.
- (e) Reversions. All unused funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Board of Governors for scholarship loans, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all interest earned on these funds shall revert to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year."

**SECTION 9.4.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to all awards from the Board of Governors' Medical Scholarship Program made to students admitted into medical school on or after July 1, 2007.

#### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS' DENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

SECTION 9.5.(a) Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 116-40.10. Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship Loan Program.

(a) Administration of Dental Scholarship Program. – The Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship Loan Program was established by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina. The Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship Loan Program operates under the purview of the Board of Governors and is administered by the Board of Governors.

- (b) Dental Scholarship Loan Program. Pursuant to this section, the Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship Loan Program may provide a four-year scholarship loan of relevant tuition and fees, mandatory medical insurance, required laptop computers to any first-year students, required dental equipment, and an annual stipend of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per year to any student who has been accepted for admission to the School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- (c) Criteria for Awarding Scholarship Loans. The Board of Governors may adopt standards, including minimum grade point average and scholastic aptitude test scores, for awarding these scholarship loans to ensure that only the most qualified students receive them. The Board of Governors shall make an effort to identify and encourage minority and economically disadvantaged youth to enter the program.
- (d) Terms of Scholarship Loans. All awards made under this section shall be made as scholarship loans and shall be evidenced by notes made payable to the Board that shall bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per year beginning September 1 after completion of the program, or immediately after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever is earlier. The scholarship loan may be terminated by the recipient withdrawing from school or by the recipient not meeting the standards set by the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation, the recipient practices dentistry in North Carolina for four years. The Board of Governors shall also forgive the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the recipient to practice dentistry in North Carolina for four years, within seven years after graduation, because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient.
- (e) Reversions. All unused funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Board for scholarship loans, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all interest earned on these funds shall revert to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year.
- **SECTION 9.5.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to all awards from the Board of Governors' Dental Scholarship Program made to students admitted to the School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on or after July 1, 2007.

# GRADUATE NURSE SCHOLARSHIP LOANS FOR FULL-TIME NURSING FACULTY IN THE NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

**SECTION 9.6.(a)** G.S. 90-171.100 reads as rewritten:

- "§ 90-171.100. Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production established; administration.
- (a) There is established the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production. The North Carolina Nursing Scholars Commission shall determine selection criteria, methods of selection, and shall select recipients of scholarship loans made under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production.
- (b) The Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall be used to provide the following:
  - (1) A scholarship loan for up to two years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year, per recipient, to students enrolled in a masters degree program in nursing education or any other area of the nursing field that would permit them to become a nursing instructor at a North Carolina community college or university.
  - (2) A scholarship loan for up to three years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year, per recipient, to students enrolled in a doctoral degree program in nursing education or any other area of

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- the nursing field that would permit them to become a nursing instructor at a North Carolina community college or university.
- (3) A scholarship loan for up to two years in the amount of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) per year, per recipient, to nursing faculty in the North Carolina Community College System enrolled in a master's degree program in nursing education.
- The State Education Assistance Authority shall adopt specific rules to (b1) regulate these scholarship loans.
- If a recipient is awarded a scholarship loan under this program and is enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, in an eligible program, but is unable to pursue the course of study in nursing for a semester due to limited faculty resources at the institution for that semester, then the recipient shall continue to receive the scholarship loan for that semester and shall not be required to forfeit or repay the scholarship loan for that semester, provided that the recipient remains otherwise eligible for the program. This waiver shall be valid for only one semester of study and may extend a recipient's eligibility for funding under the program by no more than one semester.
- The Commission shall adopt stringent standards, which may include minimum grade point average, scholastic aptitude test scores, and other standards deemed appropriate by the Commission, to ensure that only the best potential students receive loans under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production. Standards adopted by the Commission shall include provisions for ensuring that the qualifications of applicants who are or would be nontraditional students are considered fairly in providing them with opportunities to compete for the loans. Standards adopted by the Commission shall also provide that community college nursing faculty receive preference in awarding scholarship loans under this section. Loans under the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall be awarded only to applicants who meet the standards set by the Commission and who agree to teach in a North Carolina public or private nursing program upon completion of the nursing education program supported by the loan. If a recipient under this section is a nursing faculty member at a community college, then as a condition of a scholarship loan received under G.S. 90-171.100(b)(3), the recipient shall agree to continue to work for the community college system in North Carolina as provided in G.S. 90-171.101(b).
- The Commission shall develop and administer the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production in cooperation with nursing schools at institutions approved by the Commission and the North Carolina Board of Nursing. The Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production shall provide for participants to be exposed to a range of extracurricular activities while in school, which activities shall be aimed at instilling in students a strong motivation to remain in the practice of nursing education and to provide leadership for the nursing profession.
- The Commission shall make an effort to identify and encourage minority students and students who may not otherwise consider a career in nursing to apply for the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production.
- Upon the naming of recipients of loans from the Graduate Nurse Scholarship Program for Faculty Production, the Commission shall inform the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) of its decisions. The SEAA shall perform all of the administrative functions necessary to implement this Article, which functions shall include: rulemaking, dissemination of information to the public, distribution and receipt of applications for scholarship loans, and the functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement of promissory notes required under this Article."

**SECTION 9.6.(b)** G.S. 90-171.101(b) reads as rewritten:

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The State Education Assistance Authority shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation from a nursing education program, the recipient teaches in a public or private nursing education program in a public or private educational institution in North Carolina for one year for every year a scholarship loan was provided: provided; unless the recipient was a nursing faculty member of a community college. In those circumstances, the State Education Assistance Authority shall forgive the loan if, within seven years after graduation from a nursing education program, the recipient teaches in a community college nursing education program in North Carolina for one year for every year a scholarship loan was provided. If the recipient repays the scholarship loan by cash payments, all indebtedness shall be repaid within 10 years. The Authority may provide for accelerated repayment and for less than full-time employment options to encourage the practice of nursing education in either geographic or nursing specialty shortage areas. The Authority shall adopt specific rules to designate geographic areas and these nursing specialty shortage areas, recommendations of the North Carolina Center for Nursing. The North Carolina Center for Nursing shall base its recommendations on objective information provided by interested groups or agencies and upon objective information collected by the Center. The Authority may forgive the scholarship loan if it determines that it is impossible for the recipient to teach in a public or private nursing <del>program program, or in a community</del> college nursing program if that was a condition of the scholarship loan, in North Carolina for a sufficient time to repay the loan because of the death or permanent disability of the recipient within 10 years following graduation or termination of enrollment in a nursing education program."

# ESTABLISH THE EDUCATION ACCESS REWARDS NORTH CAROLINA SCHOLARS FUND (EARN)

**SECTION 9.7.(a)** Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section to read:

# '§ 116-209.26. Education Access Rewards North Carolina Scholars Fund.

- The following definitions apply to this section: (a)
  - Academic year. A period of time in which a student in matriculated (1) status is expected to complete the equivalent of at least two semesters' or three quarters' academic work.
  - Eligible postsecondary institution. A school that is: (2)
    - A constituent institution of The University of North Carolina as a. defined in G.S. 116-2(4); or
    - A community college as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2).
  - Matriculated status. Being recognized as a first-time candidate for a (3) degree or certificate, exclusive of any course credits earned while in high school, in a defined program of study at an eligible postsecondary institution.
  - <u>Title IV. Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965</u>, as amended. **(4)**
- There is established the Education Access Rewards North Carolina Scholars Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide grants to certain eligible students to enable them to obtain an education beyond the high school level at certain postsecondary institutions in North Carolina without incurring student loans to meet their financial need during the first two years of their postsecondary education. The State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) shall administer the Fund.
- Criteria for awarding the grants shall be developed by the SEAA and include all of the following:

- 1 The student must qualify as a legal resident of North Carolina, a legal (1) 2 resident of the United States, and as a resident for tuition purposes in 3 accordance with G.S. 116-143.1. 4 Within seven months of the fiscal year in which the grant is to be **(2)** 5 disbursed, the student must have: 6 Graduated from a North Carolina high school; 7 Received a General Education Development (GED) Certificate <u>b.</u> 8 from a North Carolina institution; or 9 Completed a high school education in a home school setting <u>c.</u> 10 meeting the qualifications and requirements under 11 G.S. 115C-564. The student must meet enrollment standards by being admitted, 12 (3) 13 enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a matriculated 14 status on a full-time basis at an eligible postsecondary institution in 15 North Carolina. The student must be an eligible dependent student. For purposes of this 16 (4) 17 subsection, an "eligible dependent student" is a student who: 18 Either is classified as dependent for the Title IV programs or is a. 19 a ward or dependent of the court; and 20 Demonstrates total family income not exceeding two hundred b. 21 percent (200%) of the applicable federal poverty guideline, 22 according to standards set by the SEAA and measured using 23 data elements available to the SEAA from the Free Application 24 for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or such other source as the 25 SEAA may deem appropriate. 26 The student must meet all other eligibility requirements for the federal (5) 27 Pell Grant. 28 In order to retain eligibility for a grant for the student's second (6) 29 academic year, the student must meet achievement standards by 30 maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in 31 accordance with the standards and practices used for Title IV programs 32 by the eligible postsecondary institution in which the student is 33 enrolled. 34 The student may not receive a grant in an amount that, when combined (7) 35 with the federal Pell Grant, exceeds the student's cost of attendance as 36 defined under Title IV. 37 The student may not receive a grant under this section for more than (8) 38 the equivalent of two academic years. 39 The maximum grant for which a student is eligible under this section shall be four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per academic year. In the event there are not sufficient 40 41 funds to provide each eligible student with the maximum grant, it is the intent of the 42 General Assembly that eligible students who have matriculated into an eligible 43 postsecondary institution in North Carolina with at least one academic year of college
  - (e) The grants provided for in this section shall be administered by the State Education Assistance Authority pursuant to rules adopted by the SEAA not inconsistent with this section.

credit receive the maximum grant amount and all other eligible students shall receive a

(f) The State Education Assistance Authority shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 1, 2009, and by each December 1 thereafter, regarding the Fund and grants awarded from the Fund.

reduced grant amount.

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(g) Grant funds unexpended shall remain available to the SEAA for future grants to be awarded under this section."

**SECTION 9.7.(b)** There is appropriated from the Escheat Fund to the State Education Assistance Authority the sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to implement this section. Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, no grant shall be disbursed to an eligible student under G.S. 116-209.26, as enacted by this act, before July 1, 2008.

# MANAGEMENT FLEXIBILITY TO REORGANIZE BUDGET CODE 16012 UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS RELATED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

**SECTION 9.8.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the General Administration of The University of North Carolina and the State Educational Assistance Authority shall, with the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, reorganize budget code 16012, UNC Board of Governors Related Educational Programs, so that the budget reflects and segregates each specific program individually. The Office of State Budget and Management shall work with the University of North Carolina General Administration and the State Educational Assistance Authority to ensure that each program represented in code 16012 is identified and budgeted separately.

**SECTION 9.8.(b)** The University of North Carolina General Administration shall report the new budget structure for budget code 16012, as approved by the Office of State Budget and Management, to the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly no later than March 31, 2008.

# FUTURE TEACHERS OF NC SCHOLARSHIP LOAN PROGRAM

**SECTION 9.9.** G.S. 116-209.38(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) There is established the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Loan Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to provide a two-year scholarship loan of six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500) per year for any North Carolina student pursuing a college degree to teach in the public schools of the State. The scholarship loan shall be paid only for the student's junior and senior years. The scholarship loan is available if the student is enrolled in a State institution of higher education or a private institution of higher education located in this State that has an accredited teacher preparation program for students planning to become certified teachers in North Carolina. The State Education Assistance Authority shall administer the Fund and shall award 100–150 scholarship loans annually."

## PRINCIPALS' EXECUTIVE PROGRAM

**SECTION 9.10.(a)** The operating budget of the Principals' Executive Program (PEP) is appropriated on a nonrecurring basis for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium until the General Assembly receives data showing the program has a positive, measurable impact on conditions for teaching and learning in schools.

**SECTION 9.10.(b)** The Principals' Executive Program shall develop a formalized admissions policy that does all of the following:

- (1) Gives priority to school administrators working in high-need schools so that State resources are targeted to those who most need support.
- (2) Takes into account geographic diversity to ensure that school administrators statewide are served. If more school administrators seek admission than slots are available, the Principals' Executive Program shall retain those names and offer priority admission to those on the

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waiting list for the next class. The Principals' Executive Program shall also use these waiting lists to assess demand and determine how best to allocate resources among the various executive training courses.

The State Board of Education and the Board of **SECTION 9.10.(c)** Governors of The University of North Carolina shall recommend to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee a plan to provide input on the Principals' Executive Program's priorities and feedback on its performance. This plan shall be presented no later than April 1, 2008.

# REPEAL NORTH CAROLINA PROGRESS BOARD

REVERT MOTORSPORTS CAPITAL ACCOUNT

**SECTION 9.11.** Part 2A of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 9.12.** Effective June 30, 2007, the unencumbered balance of the funds appropriated to the NC Motor Sports Testing and Research Complex in Section 32.1 of S.L. 2004-124, as amended by Section 3 of S.L. 2004-184, shall revert to the General Fund.

# LEGISLATIVE TUITION GRANT FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

**SECTION 9.13.(a)** G.S. 116-21.2 reads as rewritten:

#### Legislative tuition grants to aid students and licensure students "§ 116-21.2. attending private institutions of higher education.

- In addition to any funds appropriated pursuant to G.S. 116-19 and in addition to all other financial assistance made available to institutions, or to persons attending these institutions, there is granted to each full-time—North Carolina undergraduate student attending an approved institution as defined in G.S. 116-22, a sum, to be determined by the General Assembly for each academic year which shall be distributed to the full-time-undergraduate student as provided by this subsection. A full-time North Carolina undergraduate student shall be awarded the full amount of the tuition grant provided by this section. A part-time North Carolina undergraduate student who is enrolled to take at least six hours of academic credit per semester shall be awarded a tuition grant in an amount that is calculated on a pro rata basis.
- The legislative tuition grant provided by this section shall also be granted to each full-time licensure student who is enrolled in a program intended to result in a license in teaching or nursing at an approved institution. The legislative tuition grant provided by this section shall be awarded on a pro rata basis to any part-time licensure student who is enrolled less than full time to take at least six hours of undergraduate academic credit per semester in a program intended to result in a license in teaching or nursing at an approved institution. The legislative tuition grant and prorated legislative tuition grant authorized under this subsection shall be paid for undergraduate courses only. If a course is required for licensure, but is designated as both an undergraduate and graduate course, for purposes of this subsection, the course shall be considered an undergraduate course.
- The tuition grants provided for in this section shall be administered by the State Education Assistance Authority pursuant to rules adopted by the State Education Assistance Authority not inconsistent with this section. The State Education Assistance Authority shall not approve any grant until it receives proper certification from an approved institution that the student or licensure student applying for the grant is eligible. Upon receipt of the certification, the State Education Assistance Authority shall

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remit at the times as it prescribes the grant to the approved institution on behalf, and to the credit, of the student or licensure student.

- Except as provided in subsection (a1) of this section, in In the event a full-time student on whose behalf a grant has been paid in accordance with subsection (a) of this section or a full-time licensure student on whose behalf a grant has been paid in accordance with subsection (a1) of this section is not enrolled and carrying a minimum academic load as of the tenth classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which the grant was paid, the institution shall refund the full amount of the grant to the State Education Assistance Authority. If a part-time student on whose behalf a prorated grant has been paid in accordance with subsection (a) of this section or a part-time licensure student on whose behalf a prorated grant has been paid in accordance with subsection (a1) of this section is not enrolled and carrying a minimum academic load of six credit hours per semester in the undergraduate class as of the tenth classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which the grant was paid, the institution shall refund the full amount of the grant to the State Education Assistance Authority. If the matriculated status of a full-time student or a full-time licensure student changes to a matriculated status of part-time student or part-time licensure student by the tenth classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which the grant was paid, the institution shall refund only the difference between the amount of the full-time grant awarded and the amount of the part-time grant that is awarded pursuant to this section. Each approved institution shall be subject to examination by the State Auditor for the purpose of determining whether the institution has properly certified eligibility and enrollment of students and licensure students and credited grants paid on behalf of them.
- (d) In the event there are not sufficient funds to provide each eligible student or licensure student with a full <u>or prorated</u> grant as provided by subsection (a) of this section or a full or a prorated grant as provided by subsection (a1) of this section:
  - (1) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, with the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, may transfer available funds to meet the needs of the programs provided by subsections (a), (a1), and (b) of this section; and
  - (2) Each eligible student and licensure student shall receive a pro rata share of funds then available for the remainder of the academic year within the fiscal period covered by the current appropriation.
  - (e) Any remaining funds shall revert to the General Fund." **SECTION 9.13.(b)** G.S. 116-43.5 reads as rewritten:

# "§ 116-43.5. State grants to aid eligible students attending certain private institutions of higher education; administrative procedure.

- (a) Definitions. The following definitions apply in this section:
  - (1) "Institution" means a nonprofit educational institution with a main permanent campus located in this State that satisfies all of the following:
    - a. Is not owned or operated by the State of North Carolina or by an agency or political subdivision of the State or by any combination thereof.
    - b. Is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools under the standards of the College Delegate Assembly of the Association.
    - c. Awards a postsecondary degree as defined in G.S. 116-15.
    - d. Its students are not eligible for a similar State grant under another State program.

- (1a) "Licensure student" means a person who:
  - a. Has a bachelor's degree;
  - b. <u>Is enrolled either full-time or less than full-time in a program intended to result in licensure in teaching or nursing;</u>
  - <u>c.</u> Attends an institution located in the State; and
  - d. Qualifies as a resident of North Carolina in accordance with definitions of residency that may from time to time be adopted by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and published in the residency manual of the Board.
- (2) "Main permanent campus" means a campus that is owned by the institution that provides permanent on-premises housing, food services, and classrooms with full-time faculty members and administration that engage in postsecondary degree activity as defined in G.S. 116-15.
- (3) "Student" means a person enrolled in and attending an institution located in the State (i) who qualifies as a resident of North Carolina in accordance with definitions of residency that may from time to time be adopted by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and published in the residency manual of the Board, and (ii) who has not received a bachelors degree, or qualified therefor, and who is otherwise classified as an undergraduate under such regulations as the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina may promulgate. Qualification for in-State tuition under G.S. 116-143.3 makes a person a "student" as defined in this subdivision.
- (b) Eligibility. Eligibility of Full-Time and Part-Time Undergraduates. A student is eligible for a State grant under this section for an academic year if the student is a full-time North Carolina undergraduate student attending an institution as defined by this section and is not eligible for a similar State grant under another State program for the same academic year. A full-time North Carolina undergraduate student shall be eligible for the full amount of the State grant provided by this section. A part-time North Carolina undergraduate student who is enrolled to take at least six hours of academic credit per semester shall be eligible for a State grant under this section calculated on a pro rata basis.
- (b1) Eligibility of Licensure Students. Each full-time licensure student who is enrolled in a program intended to result in a license in teaching or nursing shall also be eligible for the State grant provided by this section. The State grant provided by this section shall be paid on a pro rata basis to any part-time licensure student who is enrolled to take at least six hours of undergraduate academic credit per semester in a program intended to result in a license in teaching or nursing at an approved institution. The State grant and prorated State grant authorized under this subsection shall be paid for undergraduate courses only. If a course is required for licensure, but is designated as both an undergraduate and graduate course, for purposes of this subsection, the course shall be considered an undergraduate course.
- (c) Administration. The State grants provided for in this section shall be administered by the State Education Assistance Authority pursuant to rules adopted by the State Education Assistance Authority not inconsistent with this section. The State Education Assistance Authority shall pay the State grant to each student eligible under this section. The amount of the grant shall be determined by the General Assembly. The State grant shall be paid to a student only after the student completes the academic year. The grant shall be paid directly to the student on or after July 1 following the completion of the academic year. The State Education Assistance Authority shall not

remit any grant until it receives proper certification from an institution that the student applying for the grant is an eligible student.

- (d) Shortfall. In the event there are not sufficient funds to provide each eligible student with a full grant:grant or prorated grant:
  - (1) Each eligible full-time student or full-time licensure student eligible for a full grant under this section shall receive a pro rata share of funds for the full grant then available for the appropriate academic year within the fiscal period covered by the current appropriation.
  - Each part-time student or part-time licensure student eligible for a prorated grant under this section shall receive a pro rata share of the funds for the prorated grant then available for the appropriate academic year within the fiscal period covered by the current appropriation.
  - (e) Reversion. Any remaining funds shall revert to the General Fund.
- (f) A State grant authorized by this act shall be reduced by twenty-five percent (25%) for any individual student who has completed 140 semester credit hours or the equivalent of 140 semester credit hours.
- (f1) The State Education Assistance Authority shall document the number of full-time equivalent and part-time North Carolina undergraduate students and the number of licensure students that are enrolled in private institutions and the State funds collected by students at each institution under this section. The State Education Assistance Authority shall report those findings to the Secretary of Administration, the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Education, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.
  - (g) The State grant shall not be used for any student who:
    - (1) Is incarcerated in a State or federal correctional facility for committing a Class A, B, B1, or B2 felony; or
    - (2) Is incarcerated in a State or federal correctional facility for committing a Class C through I felony and is not eligible for parole or release within 10 years."

**SECTION 9.13.(c)** Notwithstanding G.S. 116-21.2(d) and G.S. 116-43.5(d), in the event there are not sufficient funds to provide each eligible student with a full grant or prorated grant as provided by G.S. 116-21.2 and G.S. 116-43.5, then those students who qualify to receive full grants shall be awarded the full amount of the full grants, but those students who qualify to receive prorated grants shall be awarded prorated shares of the pro rata grants.

**SECTION 9.13.(d)** This section applies to the 2007-2008 academic year and each subsequent academic year.

#### PART X. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### PHYSICIAN SERVICES

**SECTION 10.1.** With the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, the Department of Health and Human Services may use funds appropriated in this act for across-the-board salary increases and performance pay to offset similar increases in the costs of contracting with private and independent universities for the provision of physician services to clients in facilities operated by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services. This offsetting shall be done in the same manner as is currently done with the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina.

#### LIABILITY INSURANCE

SECTION 10.2.(a) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Secretary of the Department of Correction may provide medical liability coverage not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per incident on behalf of employees of the Departments licensed to practice medicine or dentistry, on behalf of all licensed physicians who are faculty members of The University of North Carolina who work on contract for the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services for incidents that occur in Division programs, and on behalf of physicians in all residency training programs from The University of North Carolina who are in training at institutions operated by the Department of Health and Human Services. This coverage may include commercial insurance or self-insurance and shall cover these individuals for their acts or omissions only while they are engaged in providing medical and dental services pursuant to their State employment or training.

**SECTION 10.2.(b)** The coverage provided under this section shall not cover any individual for any act or omission that the individual knows or reasonably should know constitutes a violation of the applicable criminal laws of any state or the United States or that arises out of any sexual, fraudulent, criminal, or malicious act or out of any act amounting to willful or wanton negligence.

**SECTION 10.2.(c)** The coverage provided pursuant to this section shall not require any additional appropriations and shall not apply to any individual providing contractual service to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, or the Department of Correction, with the exception that coverage may include physicians in all residency training programs from The University of North Carolina who are in training at institutions operated by the Department of Health and Human Services and licensed physicians who are faculty members of The University of North Carolina who work for the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.

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# FUNDS FOR JIM "CATFISH" HUNTER CHAPTER OF THE ALS ASSOCIATION

**SECTION 10.3.** Funds appropriated in this act for the Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter of the ALS Association shall be expended only for services provided within North Carolina.

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#### DHHS PAYROLL DEDUCTION FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES

**SECTION 10.4.** Subject to rules adopted by the State Controller, an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services may authorize, in writing, the periodic deduction from the employee's salary or wages for employment by the State, a designated lump sum to be paid to satisfy the cost of services received for child care provided by the Department.

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#### NONMEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT CHANGES

**SECTION 10.5.** Providers of medical services under the various State programs, other than Medicaid, offering medical care to citizens of the State shall be reimbursed at rates no more than those under the North Carolina Medical Assistance Program.

The Department of Health and Human Services may reimburse hospitals at the full prospective per diem rates without regard to the Medical Assistance Program's annual limits on hospital days. When the Medical Assistance Program's per diem rates for inpatient services and its interim rates for outpatient services are used to reimburse

providers in non-Medicaid medical service programs, retroactive adjustments to claims already paid shall not be required.

Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph one, the Department of Health and Human Services may negotiate with providers of medical services under the various Department of Health and Human Services programs, other than Medicaid, for rates as close as possible to Medicaid rates for the following purposes: contracts or agreements for medical services and purchases of medical equipment and other medical supplies. These negotiated rates are allowable only to meet the medical needs of its non-Medicaid eligible patients, residents, and clients who require such services which cannot be provided when limited to the Medicaid rate.

Maximum net family annual income eligibility standards for services in these programs shall be as follows:

DSB Medical Eye Care

DSB Independent Living <55

DSB Independent Living 55>

DSB Vocational Rehabilitation

DVR Independent Living <55

DVR Independent Living 55>

DVR Vocational Rehabilitation

DVR Vocational Rehabilitation

125% FPL

125% FPL

125% FPL

The eligibility level for adults 55 years of age or older who qualify for services through the Division of Services for the Blind, Independent Living Rehabilitation Program, shall be two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty guidelines, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and in effect on July 1 of each fiscal year. The eligibility level for adults in the Atypical Antipsychotic Medication Program in the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services shall be one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty guidelines, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and in effect on July 1 of each fiscal year. Additionally, those adults enrolled in the Atypical Antipsychotic Medication Program who become gainfully employed may continue to be eligible to receive State support, in decreasing amounts, for the purchase of atypical antipsychotic medication and related services up to three hundred percent (300%) of the poverty level.

State financial participation in the Atypical Antipsychotic Medication Program for those enrollees who become gainfully employed is as follows:

Income

State Participation

Client Participation

<u>Income</u>	State Participation	Client Participat
(% of poverty)	-	-
0-150%	100%	0%
151-200%	75%	25%
201-250%	50%	50%
251-300%	25%	75%
300% and over	0%	100%

The Department of Health and Human Services shall contract at, or as close as possible to, Medicaid rates for medical services provided to residents of State facilities of the Department.

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER CHANGES**

**SECTION 10.6.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act for Community Health Grants, the sum of seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) in recurring funds for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated to federally qualified health centers and those health centers that meet the criteria for federally qualified health centers, State-designated rural

health centers, free clinics, public health departments, school-based health centers, and other nonprofit organizations that provide primary and preventative medical services to uninsured or medically indigent patients to:

- (1) Increase access to preventative and primary care services by uninsured or medically indigent patients in existing or new health center locations:
- (2) Establish community health center services in counties where no such services exist:
- (3) Create new services or augment existing services provided to uninsured or medically indigent patients, including primary care and preventative medical services, dental services, pharmacy, and behavioral health; and
- (4) Increase capacity necessary to serve the uninsured by enhancing or replacing facilities, equipment, or technologies.

Grant funds may not be used to enhance or increase compensation or other benefits of personnel, administrators, directors, consultants, or any other parties. Grant funds may not be used to supplant federal funds traditionally received by federally qualified community health centers and may not be used to finance or satisfy any existing debt. In distributing funds, the Department of Health and Human Services shall consider the availability of other funds for the agency, the incidence of poverty or indigent clients served, arrangements for after-hours care, and collaboration with the applicant's community hospital and other safety-net organizations.

**SECTION 10.6.(a1)** Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, of the funds allocated in this section for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the sum of three hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$375,000) shall be used to provide a cost of operations increase to eligible school-based and school-linked adolescent health centers.

**SECTION 10.6.(b)** The Office shall work with the North Carolina Community Health Center Association (hereafter "NCCHCA") and the North Carolina Public Health Association (hereafter "NCPHA") to establish an advisory committee to develop an objective and equitable process for awarding grant funds. The Office shall also develop auditing and accountability procedures. Not more than one percent (1%) of the funds appropriated in this section may be used to reimburse the Office for administering the grant program in collaboration with the NCCHCA and the NCPHA.

**SECTION 10.6.(c)** Recipients of grant funds shall provide to the Office annually a written report detailing the number of additional uninsured and medically indigent patients that are cared for, the types of services that were provided, and any other information requested by the Office as necessary for evaluating the success of the grant program.

**SECTION 10.6.(d)** The Office shall work with the NCCHCA and NCPHA to study and present recommendations for continuing funds to support the expansion of community health centers, State-designated rural health centers, and public health departments to serve more of the State's uninsured and indigent population. The Office shall submit the report to the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly upon its convening.

#### FUNDS TO ASSIST RURAL HOSPITALS

**SECTION 10.7.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health and Community Care, the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated to small

rural hospitals in need of assistance with the operations and infrastructure maintenance of the hospital. These funds may be used for:

- (1) Capital and operational needs of small rural hospitals. The Office of Rural Health and Community Care shall convene an advisory group to establish criteria for distribution of these funds. The criteria shall include the number of indigent patients served, the number of Medicaid recipients served, the per capita income of the area served by the hospital, and the financial needs of the hospital; and
- (2) Pilot demonstration programs that address issues critical to the long-term survivability of rural hospitals such as: development of regional care networks for mental health services; restructuring of emergency department and outpatient services; and disease-focused regional referral and care networks. The Office of Rural Health and Community Care shall convene an advisory group to establish criteria for the pilot demonstration projects, distribution of funds, and monitoring and evaluation of the pilot projects.

The Office of Rural Health and Community Care shall report on the allocation of funds appropriated under this section to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division not later than March 1, 2008.

#### TRANSFER SHIIP FUNDS TO DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

**SECTION 10.8.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health and Community Care, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be transferred to the Department of Insurance. These funds shall be allocated by the Department of Insurance to the Seniors Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) to provide additional resources for community-based outreach and enrollment efforts to assist seniors in enrollment in the NCRx Program and Medicare Part D.

# COLLABORATION AMONG DEPARTMENTS OF ADMINISTRATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, AND PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ON SCHOOL-BASED CHILD AND FAMILY TEAM INITIATIVE

**SECTION 10.9.(a)** School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative established. –

- (1) Purpose and duties. There is established the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative. The purpose of the Initiative is to identify and coordinate appropriate community services and supports for children at risk of school failure or out-of-home placement in order to address the physical, social, legal, emotional, and developmental factors that affect academic performance. The Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and other State agencies that provide services for children shall share responsibility and accountability to improve outcomes for these children and their families. The Initiative shall be based on the following principles:
  - a. The development of a strong infrastructure of interagency collaboration:

1 b. One child, one team, one plan; 2 Individualized strengths-based care; c. 3 4 d. Accountability; Cultural competence; e. 5 f. Children at risk of school failure or out-of-home placement may 6 enter the system through any participating agency; 7 Services shall be specified, delivered, and monitored through a g. 8 unified Child and Family Plan that is outcome-oriented and 9 evaluation-based; 10 Services shall be the most efficient in terms of cost and h. 11 effectiveness and shall be delivered in the most natural settings 12 possible: 13 i. Out-of-home placements for children shall be a last resort and 14 shall include concrete plans to bring the children back to a 15 stable, permanent home, their schools, and their community; 16 17 Families and consumers shall be involved in decision making į. throughout service planning, delivery, and monitoring. 18 19 (2) Program goals and services. – In order to ensure that children 20 receiving services are appropriately served, the affected State and local 21 agencies shall: 22 Increase capacity in the school setting to address the academic, 23 health, mental health, social, and legal needs of children. 24 Ensure that children receiving services are screened initially to b. 25 identify needs and assessed periodically to determine progress 26 and sustained improvement in educational, health, safety, 27 behavioral, and social outcomes. 28 Develop uniform screening mechanisms and a set of outcomes c. 29 that are shared across affected agencies to measure children's 30 progress in home, school, and community settings. 31 d. Promote practices that are known to be effective based upon 32 research or national best practice standards. 33 Review services provided across affected State agencies to e. 34 ensure that children's needs are met. 35 f. Eliminate cost shifting and facilitate cost-sharing among 36 governmental agencies with respect to service development, 37 service delivery, and monitoring for participating children and 38 their families. 39 Participate in a local memorandum of agreement signed g. 40 annually by the participating superintendent of the local LEA, 41 directors of the county departments of social services and 42 health, director of the local management entity, the chief district 43 court judge, and the chief district court counselor. 44 (3) Local level responsibilities. – In coordination with the North Carolina 45 Child and Family Leadership Council (Council), the local board of 46 education shall establish the School-Based Child and Family Team 47 Initiative (Initiative) at designated schools and shall appoint the Child 48 and Family Team Leaders who shall be a school nurse and a school 49 social worker. Each local management entity that has any selected 50 schools in its catchment area shall appoint a Care Coordinator, and any 51 department of social services that has a selected school in its catchment area shall appoint a Child and Family Teams Facilitator. The Care Coordinators and Child and Family Team Facilitators shall have as their sole responsibility working with the selected schools in their catchment areas and shall provide training to school-based personnel, as required. The Child and Family Team Leaders shall identify and screen children who are potentially at risk of academic failure or out-of-home placement due to physical, social, legal, emotional, or developmental factors. Based on the screening results, responsibility for developing, convening, and implementing the Child and Family Team Initiative is as follows:

- a. School personnel shall take the lead role for those children and their families whose primary unmet needs are related to academic achievement.
- b. The local management entity shall take the lead role for those children and their families whose primary unmet needs are related to mental health, substance abuse, or developmental disabilities and who meet the criteria for the target population established by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.
- c. The local department of public health shall take the lead role for those children and their families whose primary unmet needs are health-related.
- d. Local departments of social services shall take the lead for those children and their families whose primary unmet needs are related to child welfare, abuse, or neglect.
- e. The chief district court counselor shall take the lead for those children and their families whose primary unmet needs are related to juvenile justice issues.

A representative from each named or otherwise identified publicly supported children's agency shall participate as a member of the Team as needed. Team members shall coordinate, monitor, and assure the successful implementation of a unified Child and Family Plan.

- (4) Reporting requirements. School-Based Child and Family Team Leaders shall provide data to the Council for inclusion in their report to the North Carolina General Assembly. The report shall include the following:
  - a. The number of and other demographic information on children screened and assigned to a team and a description of the services needed by and provided to these children;
  - b. The number of and information about children assigned to a team who are placed in programs or facilities outside the child's home or outside the child's county and the average length of stay in residential treatment;
  - c. The amount and source of funds expended to implement the Initiative;
  - d. Information on how families and consumers are involved in decision making throughout service planning, delivery, and monitoring;
  - e. Other information as required by the Council to evaluate success in local programs and ensure appropriate outcomes; and
  - f. Recommendations on needed improvements.

(5) Local advisory committee. – In each county with a participating school, the superintendent of the local LEA shall either identify an existing cross agency collaborative or council, or shall form a new group, to serve as a local advisory committee to work with the Initiative. Newly formed committees shall be chaired by the superintendent and one other member of the committee to be elected by the committee. The local advisory committee shall include the directors of the county departments of social services and health, the directors of the local management entity, the chief district court judge, the chief district court counselor, and representatives of other agencies providing services to children, as designated by the Committee. The members of the Committee shall meet as needed to monitor and support the successful implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative.

The Local Child and Family Team Advisory Committee may designate existing cross agency collaboratives or councils as working groups or to provide assistance in accomplishing established goals.

**SECTION 10.9.(b)** North Carolina Child and Family Leadership Council. –

- (1) Leadership Council established; location. There is established the North Carolina Child and Family Leadership Council (Council). The Council shall be located within the Department of Administration for organizational and budgetary purposes.
- (2) Purpose. The purpose of the Council is to review and advise the Governor in the development of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative and to ensure the active participation and collaboration in the Initiative by all State agencies and their local counterparts providing services to children in participating counties in order to increase the academic success and reduce out-of-home and out-of-county placements of children at risk of academic failure.
- (3) Membership. The Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall serve as cochairs of the Council. Council membership shall include the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Chairman of the State Board of Education, the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, and other members as appointed by the Governor.
- (4) The Council shall:
  - a. Sign an annual memorandum of agreement (MOA) among the named State agencies to define the purposes of the program and to ensure that program goals are accomplished.
  - b. Resolve State policy issues, as identified at the local level, which interfere with effective implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative.
  - c. Direct the integration of resources, as needed, to meet goals and ensure that the Initiative promotes the most effective and efficient use of resources and eliminates duplication of effort.
  - d. Establish criteria for defining success in local programs and ensure appropriate outcomes.
  - e. Develop an evaluation process, based on expected outcomes, to ensure the goals and objectives of this Initiative are achieved.

f. Review progress made on integrating policies and resources across State agencies, reaching expected outcomes, and accomplishing other goals.

g. Report semiannually, on January 1 and July 1, on progress made and goals achieved to the Office of the Governor, the Joint Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees on Education, Justice and Public Safety, and Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division of the Legislative Services Office.

The Council may designate existing cross agency collaboratives or councils as working groups or to provide assistance in accomplishing established goals.

**SECTION 10.9.(c)** Department of Health and Human Services. – The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services shall ensure that all agencies within the Department collaborate in the development and implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative and provide all required support to ensure that the Initiative is successful.

**SECTION 10.9.(d)** Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. – The Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall ensure that all agencies within the Department collaborate in the development and implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative and provide all required support to ensure that the Initiative is successful.

**SECTION 10.9.(e)** Administrative Office of the Courts. – The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts shall ensure that the Office collaborates in the development and implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative and shall provide all required support to ensure that the Initiative is successful.

**SECTION 10.9.(f)** Department of Public Instruction. – The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall ensure that the Department collaborates in the development and implementation of the School-Based Child and Family Team Initiative and shall provide all required support to ensure that the Initiative is successful.

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# COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT SERVICES PROGRAM/ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE ON THE COORDINATION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**SECTION 10.10.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall continue the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program for children at risk for institutionalization or other out-of-home placement. The Program shall be implemented by the Department in consultation with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Department of Public Instruction, and other affected State agencies. The purpose of the Program is to provide appropriate and medically necessary nonresidential and residential treatment alternatives for children at risk of institutionalization or other out-of-home placement. Program funds shall be targeted for non-Medicaid eligible children. Program funds may also be used to expand a system-of-care approach for services to children and their families statewide. The program shall include the following:

- (1) Behavioral health screening for all children at risk of institutionalization or other out-of-home placement.
- (2) Appropriate and medically necessary nonresidential and residential services for children within the child mental health deaf and hard of hearing target population.
- (3) Appropriate and medically necessary nonresidential and residential treatment services, including placements for sexually aggressive youth.

Appropriate and medically necessary nonresidential and residential 1 (4) 2 treatment services, including placements for youth needing substance 3 abuse treatment services and children with serious emotional 4 disturbances. 5 Multidisciplinary case management services, as needed. (5) 6 A system of utilization review specific to the nature and design of the (6) 7 Program. 8 Mechanisms to ensure that children are not placed in department of (7) 9 social services custody for the purpose of obtaining mental health 10 residential treatment services. 11 (8) Mechanisms to maximize current State and local funds and to expand 12 use of Medicaid funds to accomplish the intent of this Program. 13 (9)Other appropriate components to accomplish the Program's purpose. 14 (10)The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services may 15 enter into contracts with residential service providers. 16 (11)A system of identifying and tracking children placed outside of the 17 family unit in group homes, therapeutic foster care home settings, and 18 other out-of-home placements. 19 (12)The development of a strong infrastructure of interagency 20 collaboration. 21 Individualized strengths-based care. (13)22 **SECTION 10.10.(b)** In order to ensure that children at risk for 23 institutionalization or other out-of-home placement are appropriately served by the 24 mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services system, the 25 Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall do the following with respect to 26 27 services provided to these children: 28 Provide only those treatment services that are medically necessary. (1) 29 (2) Implement utilization review of services provided. 30 Adopt the following guiding principles for the provision of services: (3) 31 Service delivery system must be outcome-oriented and 32 evaluation-based. 33 Services should be delivered as close as possible to the child's b. 34 home. 35 Services selected should be those that are most efficient in c. 36 terms of cost and effectiveness. Services should not be provided solely for the convenience of 37 d. 38 the provider or the client. 39 Families and consumers should be involved in decision making e. 40 throughout treatment planning and delivery. 41 f. Services shall be specified, delivered, and monitored through a 42 unified Child and Family Plan incorporating the principles of 43 one-child-one-team-one-plan. 44 Out-of-home placements for children shall be a last resort and g. 45 shall include concrete plans to bring the children back to a 46 stable, permanent home, their schools, and their community. 47 Implement all of the following cost-reduction strategies: (4) 48 a. Preauthorization for all services except emergency services. 49 Levels of care to assist in the development of treatment plans. b.

Clinically appropriate services.

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**SECTION 10.10.(c)** The Department shall collaborate with other affected State agencies such as the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Department of Public Instruction, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and with local departments of social services, area mental health programs, and local education agencies to eliminate cost shifting and facilitate cost-sharing among these governmental agencies with respect to the treatment and placement services.

**SECTION 10.10.(d)** The Department shall not allocate funds appropriated for Program services until a Memorandum of Agreement has been executed between the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Instruction, and other affected State agencies. The Memorandum of Agreement shall address specifically the roles and responsibilities of the various departmental divisions and affected State agencies involved in the administration, financing, care, and placement of children at risk of institutionalization or other out-of-home placement. The Department shall not allocate funds appropriated in this act for the Program until the Memoranda of Agreement between local departments of social services, area mental health programs, local education agencies, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, as appropriate, are executed to effectuate the purpose of the Program. The Memoranda of Agreement shall address issues pertinent to local implementation of the Program, including provision for the immediate availability of student records to a local school administrative unit receiving a child placed in a residential setting outside the child's home county.

**SECTION 10.10.(e)** Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, services under the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program are not an entitlement for non-Medicaid eligible children served by the Program.

**SECTION 10.10.(f)** Of the funds appropriated in this act for the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program, the Department of Health and Human Services shall establish a reserve of three percent (3%) to ensure availability of these funds to address specialized needs for children with unique or highly complex problems.

**SECTION 10.10.(g)** The Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Department of Public Instruction, and other affected agencies, shall report on the following Program information:

- The number and other demographic information of children served. (1)
- The amount and source of funds expended to implement the Program. (2)
- (3) Information regarding the number of children screened, specific placement of children, including the placement of children in programs or facilities outside of the child's home county, and treatment needs of children served.
- (4) The average length of stay in residential treatment, transition, and return to home.
- (5) The number of children diverted from institutions or other out-of-home placements such as training schools and State psychiatric hospitals and a description of the services provided.
- Recommendations on other areas of the Program that need to be (6) improved.
- Other information relevant to successful implementation of the (7) Program.

**SECTION 10.10.(h)** The Department shall report on the following Program funding information:

> The amount of Program funding allocated and expended by each LME. (1)

- (2) The amount of Program funds each LME transferred out of the Program to serve purposes other than those outlined by this Program and an explanation of why LMEs transferred the funding.
- (3) Recommendations to improve the penetration rate of Program funds to serve the intended populations across the State.

**SECTION 10.10.(i)** Article 24 of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes reads as rewritten:

#### "Article 24.

"The Legislative Study Commission on Children and Youth."

### "§ 120-215. Commission created; purpose.

There is created the Legislative Study Commission on Children and Youth. The purpose of the Commission is to study and evaluate the system of delivery of services to children and youth and to make recommendations to improve service delivery to meet present and future needs of the children and youth of this State. This study shall be a continuing one and the evaluation ongoing.

#### "§ 120-216. Commission duties.

The Commission shall have the following duties:

- (1) Study the needs of children and youth. This study shall include, but is not limited to:
  - a. Determining the adequacy and appropriateness of services:
    - 1. To children and youth receiving child welfare services;
    - 2. To children and youth in the juvenile court system; and
    - 3. Provided by the Division of Social Services and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Prevention;
    - 4. To children and youth served by the Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services system.
  - b. Developing methods for identifying and providing services to children and youth not receiving but in need of child welfare services, children and youth at risk of entering the juvenile court system, and children and youth exposed to domestic violence situations.
  - c. Developing strategies for addressing the issues of school dropout, teen suicide, and adolescent pregnancy.
  - d. Identifying and evaluating the impact on children and youth of other economic and environmental issues.
  - e. Identifying obstacles to ensuring that children who are in secure or nonsecure custody are placed in safe and permanent homes within a reasonable period of time and recommending strategies for overcoming those obstacles. The Commission shall consider what, if anything, can be done to expedite the adjudication and appeal of abuse and neglect charges against parents so that decisions may be made about the safe and permanent placement of their children as quickly as possible.
- (2) Evaluate problems associated with juveniles who are beyond the disciplinary control of their parents, including juveniles who are runaways, and develop solutions for addressing the problems of those juveniles.
- (3) Identify strategies for the development and funding of a comprehensive statewide database relating to children and youth to

facilitate State agency planning for delivery of services to children and youth.

(4) Conduct any other studies, evaluations, or assessments necessary for the Commission to carry out its purpose.

## "§ 120-217. Commission membership; terms; compensation.

- (a) The Commission shall consist of 25-26 members, as follows:
  - (1) Eleven members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, among them:
    - a. Four-Five shall be members of the House of Representatives at the time of their appointment, of whom at least one shall also serve on the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, one of whom also serves on the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, one of whom also serves on the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and one of whom also serves on the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety,
    - b. One shall be the director of a local health department,
    - c. One shall be the director of a county department of social services,
    - d. One shall be a representative of the general public who has knowledge of issues relating to children and youth,the parent of a child who is at risk for behavioral, social, health, or safety problems or academic failure,
    - e. One shall be a licensed physician who is knowledgeable about the health needs of children and youth, and
    - f. One shall be a chief district court judge recommended by the Council of Chief District Judges. Judges, and
    - g. One shall be a representative from the Covenant with North Carolina Children.
  - (2) Eleven members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as follows:
    - a. Four Five shall be members of the Senate at the time of their appointment, of whom at least one shall also serve on the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, at least one of whom shall also serve on the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, at least one of whom shall also serve on the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and at least one of whom also serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety.
    - b. One shall be the director of a mental health area authority,
    - c. One shall be a representative of the Association of County Commissioners.
    - d. One shall be a representative of the general public who has knowledge of issues relating to children and youth, a local board of education,

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- One shall be a licensed attorney whose practice includes the e. representation of parents accused of criminal or civil abuse or neglect, and
- f. One shall be a chief district court judge recommended by the Council of Chief District <del>Judges.</del> Judges,
- One shall be a representative from the North Carolina Child g. Advocacy Institute. Action for Children of North Carolina, and
- One shall be a representative from the North Carolina Child h. Fatality Task Force.
- (3) The following shall serve ex officio as nonvoting members of the
  - The Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Secretary's designee,
  - The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or the b. Superintendent's designee,
  - c. The Secretary of Administration, or the Secretary's designee,
  - The Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, or the d. Director's designee.
- Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority who made the initial (b) appointment and by a person having the same qualification. Members' terms shall last for two years. Members may be reappointed for two consecutive terms and may be appointed again after having been off the Commission for two years.
- Commission members shall receive no salary as a result of serving on the Commission and the Task Force on the Coordination of Children's Services but shall receive necessary subsistence and travel expenses in accordance with G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as applicable.

## "§ 120-218. Commission meetings; public hearings; staff.

- The Commission shall hold its initial meeting at the call of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Subsequent meetings shall be held upon the call of the Commission cochairs. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint a cochair each from the membership of the Commission.
- The Commission may hold public hearings across the State to solicit public input with respect to issues relating to children and youth.
- The Commission may contract for clerical or professional staff or for any other services it may require in the course of its ongoing study. At the request of the Commission, the Legislative Services Commission may supply members of the staff of the Legislative Services Office and clerical assistance to the Commission as the Legislative Services Commission considers appropriate. The Commission and the Task Force on the Coordination of Children's Services may, with the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, meet in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.

## "§ 120-219. Commission reports.

The Commission shall report to the General Assembly and to the Governor the results of its study and recommendations. A written report shall be submitted to each biennial session of the General Assembly at its convening.

## "§ 120-220. Commission authority.

The Commission and the Task Force on the Coordination of Children's Services has the authority to obtain information and data from all State officers, agents, agencies, and

departments, while in discharge of its duties, pursuant to G.S. 120-19, as if it were a committee of the General Assembly.

#### "§ 120-221. Task Force on the Coordination of Children's Services.

- (a) There is created the Task Force on the Coordination of Children's Services, which shall be a Task Force of the Commission. The following members of the Commission shall serve on the Task Force:
  - (1) Five of the Commission members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as follows:
    - a. The Commission member who serves on the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Commission member who is a member of the House of Representatives and who also serves on the Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services,
    - b. The Commission member who is a local health director,
    - c. The Commission member who is the parent of a child at risk for behavioral, social, health, or safety problems or academic failure, and
    - <u>d.</u> The Commission member who is the director of a county department of social services.
  - (2) Five of the Commission members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as follows:
    - a. The Commission member who is a member of the Senate and serves on the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Commission member who serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety,
    - b. The Commission member who represents a local board of education,
    - <u>c.</u> The Commission member who is a representative of Action for Children of North Carolina, and
    - <u>d.</u> The Commission member who is the director of an area authority or county program.
  - (3) One designee of each of the following ex officio Commission members:
    - a. The Secretary of Health and Human Services,
    - <u>b.</u> <u>The Superintendent of Public Instruction, and</u>
    - c. The Secretary of Administration.
  - (4) Each cochair of the Commission shall appoint one of the Task Force members as cochair of the Task Force.
- (b) The purpose of the Task Force is to study and recommend changes to the Commission, the Governor, and the General Assembly to improve collaboration and coordination among agencies that provide services to children, youth, and families with multiple service needs. Task Force recommendations shall include mechanisms for establishing clear State leadership, consistent policy direction, and increased accountability at the State and local levels. As part of its work, the Task Force shall:
  - (1) Identify existing State, regional, and local collaborative bodies (including their charges, scopes of authority, and accountability requirements) that have been created by legislation, administrative rule, or agency policy and that are charged with serving, protecting, or improving the well-being of North Carolina's children, youth, and families. Once it has identified the collaborative bodies, the Task

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Force shall consider how they could be consolidated, reorganized, or eliminated in order to improve their effectiveness and accountability, increase the likelihood that key players will actively participate, and reduce unnecessary duplication of effort. The Task Force shall also consider the creation of a mechanism for coordination and communication among the State and local collaborative bodies, incentives for collaboration, clarification of roles among agencies, and ways to monitor the extent to which groups are collaborating.

- Study the practices of agencies currently implementing a system of care platform of practices and make recommendations regarding whether to adopt those practices statewide and across child-serving agencies as the preferred mechanism for providing services to children, youth, and families. In examining this issue, the Task Force shall identify those State and local agencies that are currently implementing practices that are consistent with a system of care, those states that have implemented a system of care as a statewide policy initiative, and the extent to which a system of care is cost-effective.
- (3) The Task Force shall also examine the following principles that are associated with a system of care and determine whether to recommend the adoption of a State policy that reflects these principles:
  - <u>a.</u> <u>Services for children should promote success, safety, and permanence.</u>
  - b. Services should be child- and family-centered, giving priority to keeping children with their families, in their home, school, and community.
  - <u>c.</u> <u>Services should actively promote early identification and intervention.</u>
  - d. Services should be designed to protect the rights of children.
  - e. Services shall be integrated and comprehensive, addressing the child's physical, educational, social, and emotional needs through a single child and family team.
  - <u>f.</u> Services shall be outcomes-accountable and tied to a unified child and family plan.
  - g. Agency resources and services shall be shared and coordinated.
    h. Services shall be provided as close to home as appropriate in
  - h. Services shall be provided as close to home as appropriate in the least restrictive setting consistent with what is known to be effective.
  - <u>i.</u> <u>Services shall be culturally competent.</u>
  - j. Services shall address the unique strengths, needs, and potential of each child and family, and shall be sufficiently flexible to meet highly individualized child and family needs.
  - k. Management of the child-serving system is a responsibility shared among all public and private child-serving agencies that should be held collectively accountable for outcomes.
- (4) In reviewing principles relating to a system of care, the Task Force shall determine whether they articulate goals that are measurable and if not, determine whether they could be modified to reflect measurable goals.
- (5) Study any other issues the Task Force determines would improve coordination and collaboration among child-serving agencies.

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(c) The Task Force shall report at least annually to the Commission or more frequently at the request of the cochairs of the Commission, and shall also report on April 1 of each year to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and the Fiscal Research Division."

**SECTION 10.10.(j)** Upon approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the Task Force. Professional staff shall be those assigned to subject areas or agencies involving child-serving programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Department of Public Instruction. Clerical staff shall be furnished to the Task Force through the offices of the House of Representatives and Senate Supervisors of Clerks.

**SECTION 10.10.(k)** The Department shall report on April 1, 2008, and April 1, 2009, on the implementation of subsections (a) through (h) of this section. The reports required under this subsection shall be made to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

#### SENIOR CENTER OUTREACH

**SECTION 10.11.(a)** Funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, shall be used by the Division of Aging and Adult Services to enhance senior center programs as follows:

- (1) To expand the outreach capacity of senior centers to reach unserved or underserved areas; or
- (2) To provide start-up funds for new senior centers.

All of these funds shall be allocated by October 1 of each fiscal year.

**SECTION 10.11.(b)** Prior to funds being allocated pursuant to this section for start-up funds for a new senior center, the county commissioners of the county in which the new center will be located shall:

- (1) Formally endorse the need for such a center;
- (2) Formally agree on the sponsoring agency for the center; and
- (3) Make a formal commitment to use local funds to support the ongoing operation of the center.

**SECTION 10.11.(c)** State funding shall not exceed seventy-five percent (75%) of reimbursable costs.

## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CONSULTATION PROGRAM FOR ADULT CARE HOMES

**SECTION 10.12.** The Department's Division of Aging and Adult Services shall develop a Quality Improvement Consultation Program for Adult Care Homes. The purpose of the Program is to promote better care and improve quality of life in a safe environment for residents in adult care homes through consultation and assistance with adult care home providers. The county departments of social services shall be responsible for implementation of the Program with all adult care homes located in the respective county, based on a timetable for statewide implementation.

The Division of Aging and Adult Services shall consult with adult care home providers, county departments of social services, consumer advocates, and other interested stakeholders and parties in the development of the Quality Improvement Consultation Program for Adult Care Homes.

The Program will address the following topics:

- (1) Principles and philosophies that are resident-centered and promote independence, dignity, and choice for residents;
- (2) Approaches to develop continuous quality improvement with a focus on resident satisfaction and optimal outcomes;
- (3) Dissemination of best practice models that have been used successfully elsewhere;
- (4) A determination of the availability of standardized instruments, and their use to the extent possible, to assess and measure adult care home performance according to quality of life indicators;
- (5) Utilization of quality improvement plans for adult care homes that identify and resolve issues that adversely affect quality of care and services to residents. The plans include agreed upon time frames for completion of improvements and identification of needed resources;
- (6) Training required to equip county departments of social services' staff to implement the Program;
- (7) A distinction of roles between the regulatory role of the Department's Division of Facility Services and the quality improvement consultation and monitoring responsibilities of the county departments of social services; and
- (8) Identification of staffing and other resources needed to implement the Program.

The Division of Aging and Adult Services shall conduct a pilot of the Quality Improvement Consultation Program for Adult Care Homes. No more than four county departments of social services shall participate in the pilot. The Division of Aging and Adult Services shall consider geographic balance and size in carrying out the pilot. At the conclusion of the pilot, the Division of Aging and Adult Services shall make recommendations regarding the effectiveness of the Quality Improvement Consultation Program for Adult Care Homes. If the Division recommends expansion of the pilot to other counties or statewide implementation of the Program, its report shall include the cost and a proposed timetable for implementing these recommendations, including the identification of any necessary statutory and administrative rule changes. The recommendations shall be made to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, the North Carolina Study Commission on Aging, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Health and Human Services.

#### STATE-COUNTY SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

**SECTION 10.13.(a)** The eligibility of Special Assistance recipients residing in adult care homes on August 1, 1995, shall not be affected by an income reduction in the Special Assistance eligibility criteria resulting from adoption of the Rate Setting Methodology Report and Related Services, providing these recipients are otherwise eligible. The maximum monthly rate for these residents in adult care home facilities shall be one thousand two hundred thirty-one dollars (\$1,231) per month per resident.

**SECTION 10.13.(b)** Effective January 1, 2007, the maximum monthly rate for residents in adult care home facilities shall be one thousand one hundred forty-eight

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dollars (\$1,148) per month per resident unless adjusted by the Department in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

**SECTION 10.13.(c)** Effective October 1, 2007, the maximum monthly rate for residents in adult care home facilities shall be one thousand one hundred seventy-eight dollars (\$1,178) per month per resident unless adjusted by the Department in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

**SECTION 10.13.(d)** The maximum monthly rate for residents in Alzheimer/Dementia special care units shall be one thousand five hundred fifteen dollars (\$1,515) per month per resident unless adjusted by the Department in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

**SECTION 10.13.(e)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Department of Health and Human Services shall review activities and costs related to the provision of care in adult care homes and shall determine what costs may be considered to properly maximize allowable reimbursement available through Medicaid personal care services for adult care homes (ACH-PCS) under federal law. determined, and with any necessary approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, the Department may transfer necessary funds from the State-County Special Assistance program within the Division of Social Services to the Division of Medical Assistance and may use those funds as State match to draw down federal matching funds to pay for such activities and costs under Medicaid's personal care services for adult care homes (ACH-PCS), thus maximizing available federal funds. The established rate for State-County Special Assistance set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be adjusted by the Department to reflect any transfer of funds from the Division of Social Services to the Division of Medical Assistance and related transfer costs and responsibilities from State-County Special Assistance to the Medicaid personal care services for adult care homes (ACH-PCS). Subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service (CMS) and prior to implementing this section, the Department may disregard a limited amount of income for individuals whose countable income exceeds the adjusted State-County Special Assistance rate. The amount of the disregard shall not exceed the difference between the Special Assistance rate prior to the adjustment and the Special Assistance rate after the adjustment and shall be used to pay a portion of the cost of the ACH-PCS and reduce the Medicaid payment for the individual's personal care services provided in an adult care home. In no event shall the reimbursement for services through the ACH-PCS exceed the average cost of the services as determined by the Department from review of cost reports as required and submitted by adult care homes. The Department shall report any transfers of funds and modifications of rates to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

**SECTION 10.13.(f)** Effective July 1, 2007, the Department of Health and Human Services shall recommend rates for State-County Special Assistance and for Adult Care Home Personal Care Services. The Department may recommend rates appropriate cost methodology and cost reports submitted by adult care homes that receive State-County Special Assistance funds and shall ensure that cost reporting is done for State-County Special Assistance and Adult Care Home Personal Care Services to the same standards as apply to other residential service providers.

#### SPECIAL ASSISTANCE IN-HOME

**SECTION 10.14.(a)** Part 3 of Article 2 of Chapter 108A of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section to read:

"§ 108A-47.1. Special Assistance in-home payments.

The Department of Health and Human Services may use funds from the existing State-County Special Assistance for Adults budget to provide Special Assistance payments to eligible individuals in in-home living arrangements. These payments may be made for up to fifteen percent (15%) of the caseload for all State-County Special Assistance for Adults. The standard monthly payment to individuals enrolled in the Special Assistance in-home program shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of the monthly payment the individual would receive if the individual resided in an adult care home and qualified for Special Assistance, except if a lesser payment amount is appropriate for the individual as determined by the local case manager. The Department shall implement Special Assistance in-home eligibility policies and procedures to assure that in-home program participants are those individuals who need and, but for the in-home program, would seek placement in an adult care home facility. The Department's policies and procedures shall include the use of a functional assessment. The Department shall make this in-home option available to all counties on a voluntary basis. To the maximum extent possible, the Department shall consider geographic balance in the dispersion of payments to individuals across the State."

**SECTION 10.14.(b)** For State fiscal year 2007-2008, qualified individuals shall not receive payments at rates less than they would have been eligible to receive in State fiscal year 2006-2007.

### **CHILD CARE SUBSIDY RATES**

**SECTION 10.15.(a)** The maximum gross annual income for initial eligibility, adjusted biennially, for subsidized child care services shall be seventy-five percent (75%) of the State median income, adjusted for family size.

**SECTION 10.15.(b)** Fees for families who are required to share in the cost of care shall be established based on a percent of gross family income and adjusted for family size. Fees shall be determined as follows:

FAMILY SIZE	PERCENT OF GROSS FAMILY INCOME
1-3	10%
4-5	9%
6 or more	8%.

**SECTION 10.15.(c)** Payments for the purchase of child care services for low-income children shall be in accordance with the following requirements:

- (1) Religious-sponsored child care facilities operating pursuant to G.S. 110-106 and licensed child care centers and homes that meet the minimum licensing standards that are participating in the subsidized child care program shall be paid the one-star county market rate or the rate they charge privately paying parents, whichever is lower.
- (2) Licensed child care centers and homes with two or more stars shall receive the market rate for that rated license level for that age group or the rate they charge privately paying parents, whichever is lower.
- (3) Nonlicensed homes shall receive fifty percent (50%) of the county market rate or the rate they charge privately paying parents, whichever is lower.
- (4) Maximum payment rates shall also be calculated periodically by the Division of Child Development for transportation to and from child care provided by the child care provider, individual transporter, or transportation agency, and for fees charged by providers to parents. These payment rates shall be based upon information collected by market rate surveys.

**SECTION 10.15.(d)** Provisions of payment rates for child care providers in counties that do not have at least 50 children in each age group for center-based and home-based care are as follows:

- (1) Except as applicable in subdivision (2) of this subsection, payment rates shall be set at the statewide or regional market rate for licensed child care centers and homes.
- (2) If it can be demonstrated that the application of the statewide or regional market rate to a county with fewer than 50 children in each age group is lower than the county market rate and would inhibit the ability of the county to purchase child care for low-income children, then the county market rate may be applied.

**SECTION 10.15.(e)** A market rate shall be calculated for child care centers and homes at each rated license level for each county and for each age group or age category of enrollees and shall be representative of fees charged to parents for each age group of enrollees within the county. The Division of Child Development shall also calculate a statewide rate and regional market rates for each rated license level for each age category.

**SECTION 10.15.(f)** Facilities licensed pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 110 of the General Statutes and facilities operated pursuant to G.S. 110-106 may participate in the program that provides for the purchase of care in child care facilities for minor children of needy families. No separate licensing requirements shall be used to select facilities to participate. In addition, child care facilities shall be required to meet any additional applicable requirements of federal law or regulations. Child care arrangements exempt from State regulation pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 110 of the General Statutes shall meet the requirements established by other State law and by the Social Services Commission.

County departments of social services or other local contracting agencies shall not use a provider's failure to comply with requirements in addition to those specified in this subsection as a condition for reducing the provider's subsidized child care rate.

**SECTION 10.15.(g)** Payment for subsidized child care services provided with Work First Block Grant funds shall comply with all regulations and policies issued by the Division of Child Development for the subsidized child care program.

**SECTION 10.15.(h)** Noncitizen families who reside in this State legally shall be eligible for child care subsidies if all other conditions of eligibility are met. If all other conditions of eligibility are met, noncitizen families who reside in this State illegally shall be eligible for child care subsidies only if at least one of the following conditions is met:

- (1) The child for whom a child care subsidy is sought is receiving child protective services or foster care services.
- (2) The child for whom a child care subsidy is sought is developmentally delayed or at risk of being developmentally delayed.
- (3) The child for whom a child care subsidy is sought is a citizen of the United States.

#### CHILD CARE ALLOCATION FORMULA

**SECTION 10.16.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall allocate child care subsidy voucher funds to pay the costs of necessary child care for minor children of needy families. The mandatory thirty percent (30%) Smart Start subsidy allocation under G.S. 143B-168.15(g) shall constitute the base amount for each county's child care subsidy allocation. The Department of Health and Human Services

shall use the following method when allocating federal and State child care funds, not including the aggregate mandatory thirty percent (30%) Smart Start subsidy allocation:

- (1) Funds shall be allocated based upon the projected cost of serving children in a county under age 11 in families with all parents working who earn less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the State median income.
- (2) No county's allocation shall be less than ninety percent (90%) of its State fiscal year 2001-2002 initial child care subsidy allocation.

**SECTION 10.16.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services may reallocate unused child care subsidy voucher funds in order to meet the child care needs of low-income families. Any reallocation of funds shall be based upon the expenditures of all child care subsidy voucher funding, including Smart Start funds, within a county.

**SECTION 10.16.(c)** Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the Department of Health and Human Services shall allocate up to twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) in federal block grant funds and State funds appropriated for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 for child care services. These funds shall be allocated to prevent termination of child care services. Funds appropriated for specific purposes, including market rate adjustments, may also be allocated by the Department separately from the allocation formula described in subsection (a) of this section.

## CHILD CARE FUNDS MATCHING REQUIREMENT

**SECTION 10.17.(a)** No local matching funds may be required by the Department of Health and Human Services as a condition of any locality's receiving its initial allocation of child care funds appropriated by this act unless federal law requires a match. If the Department reallocates additional funds above twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to local purchasing agencies beyond their initial allocation, local purchasing agencies must provide a fifteen percent (15%) local match to receive the reallocated funds. Matching requirements shall not apply when funds are allocated because of a disaster as defined in G.S. 166A-4(1).

**SECTION 10.17.(b)** If funds are reallocated to local purchasing agencies in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, the Department of Health and Human Services shall evaluate the fifteen percent (15%) local matching requirement to determine its effect on local purchasing agencies and whether the matching requirement should be adjusted. The Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than April 1, 2008.

#### CHILD CARE REVOLVING LOAN

**SECTION 10.18.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, funds budgeted for the Child Care Revolving Loan Fund may be transferred to and invested by the financial institution contracted to operate the Fund. The principal and any income to the Fund may be used to make loans, reduce loan interest to borrowers, serve as collateral for borrowers, pay the contractor's cost of operating the Fund, or pay the Department's cost of administering the program.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES ENHANCEMENTS

**SECTION 10.19.(a)** Administrative costs shall be equivalent to, on an average statewide basis for all local partnerships, not more than eight percent (8%) of the total statewide allocation to all local partnerships. For purposes of this subsection,

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**SECTION 10.19.(b)** The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., and all local partnerships shall use competitive bidding practices in contracting for goods and services on contract amounts as follows:

- For amounts of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or less, the procedures (1) specified by a written policy to be developed by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc.
- For amounts greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), but less than (2) fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), three written quotes.
- For amounts of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more, but less (3) than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000), a request for proposal process.
- (4) For amounts of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) or more, a request for proposal process and advertising in a major newspaper.

**SECTION 10.19.(c)** The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., and all local partnerships shall, in the aggregate, be required to match no less than fifty percent (50%) of the total amount budgeted for the program in each fiscal year of the biennium as follows: contributions of cash equal to at least fifteen percent (15%) and in-kind donated resources equal to no more than five percent (5%) for a total match requirement of twenty percent (20%) for each fiscal year. The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., may carry forward any amount in excess of the required match for a fiscal year in order to meet the match requirement of the succeeding fiscal year. Only in-kind contributions that are quantifiable shall be applied to the in-kind match requirement. Volunteer services may be treated as an in-kind contribution for the purpose of the match requirement of this subsection. Volunteer services that qualify as professional services shall be valued at the fair market value of those services. All other volunteer service hours shall be valued at the statewide average wage rate as calculated from data compiled by the Employment Security Commission in the Employment and Wages in North Carolina Annual Report for the most recent period for which data are available. Expenses, including both those paid by cash and in-kind contributions, incurred by other participating non-State entities contracting with the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., or the local partnerships, also may be considered resources available to meet the required private match. In order to qualify to meet the required private match, the expenses shall:

- Be verifiable from the contractor's records. (1)
- If in-kind, other than volunteer services, be quantifiable in accordance (2) generally accepted accounting principles for nonprofit organizations.
- (3) Not include expenses funded by State funds.
- **(4)** Be supplemental to and not supplant preexisting resources for related program activities.
- Be incurred as a direct result of the Early Childhood Initiatives (5) Program and be necessary and reasonable for the proper and efficient accomplishment of the Program's objectives.
- (6) Be otherwise allowable under federal or State law.
- (7) Be required and described in the contractual agreements approved by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., or the local partnership.

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(8) Be reported to the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., or the local partnership by the contractor in the same manner as reimbursable expenses.

Failure to obtain a twenty percent (20%) match by June 30 of each fiscal year shall result in a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the appropriation for the Program for a subsequent fiscal year. The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., shall be responsible for compiling information on the private cash and in-kind contributions into a report that is submitted to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations in a format that allows verification by the Department of Revenue. The same match requirements shall apply to any expansion funds appropriated by the General Assembly.

**SECTION 10.19.(d)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall continue to implement the performance-based evaluation system.

**SECTION 10.19.(e)** The Department of Health and Human Services and the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., shall ensure that the allocation of funds for Early Childhood Education and Development Initiatives for State fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 shall be administered and distributed in the following manner:

- (1) Capital expenditures are prohibited for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. For the purposes of this section, "capital expenditures" means expenditures for capital improvements as defined in G.S. 143-34.40.
- (2) Expenditures of State funds for advertising and promotional activities are prohibited for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

SECTION 10.19.(f) A county may use the county's allocation of State and federal child care funds to subsidize child care according to the county's Early Childhood Education and Development Initiatives Plan as approved by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. The use of federal funds shall be consistent with the appropriate federal regulations. Child care providers shall, at a minimum, comply with the applicable requirements for State licensure pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 110 of the General Statutes.

**SECTION 10.19.(g)** For fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, the local partnerships shall spend an amount for child care subsidies that provides at least fifty-two million dollars (\$52,000,000) for the TANF maintenance of effort requirement and the Child Care Development Fund and Block Grant match requirement.

## EVALUATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH HEARING AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

**SECTION 10.20.(a)** To ensure students with hearing and visual impairments are appropriately educated in this State, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall:

- (1) Collaborate in an evaluation of the State's entire service delivery model for deaf and blind students, including special needs of the students resulting from additional disabilities other than hearing and visual impairments, the training needs of professional staff, access to assistive technology, and curriculum content.
- Determine whether the State's schools for the deaf and blind should (2) remain under the purview of the Department of Health and Human Services or if management of the schools should be transferred to the Department of Public Instruction.

(3) Develop a plan to reduce institutional capacity to an appropriate level for meeting the needs of hearing and visually impaired students in North Carolina.

**SECTION 10.20.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Public Instruction shall report their findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by April 1, 2008.

#### EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES REPORT

**SECTION 10.21.** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, shall report on Early Intervention services. The report shall include the following information for all children, ages birth to three years, entering the Early Intervention system as of July 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007:

- (1) Children served: the number of children referred and the source of referral, the number of children receiving initial evaluations, the number of children determined eligible, the number of children enrolled, and the number of IFS Plans developed.
- (2) Services provided: the number and types of evaluation services, treatment services, and other services provided and whether the service was provided by an employee of a children's developmental services agency or a private provider.
- (3) Sliding scale participation: the percentage of enrolled children whose family income falls into each of the following categories: at or below two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level, between two hundred fifty percent (250%) and three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty level, between three hundred fifty percent (350%) and four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty level, and over four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty level. These percentages shall be reported based on gross income and net income after allowable deductions.

The Division of Public Health shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division not later than February 1, 2008.

## COMMUNITY-FOCUSED ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES INITIATIVE

**SECTION 10.22.(a)** Of funds appropriated in this act from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, the sum of two million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$2,750,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated for the Community-Focused Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative (CFEHDI) to provide grants-in-aid to local public health departments, American Indian tribes, and faith-based and community-based organizations to close the gap in the health status of African-Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and American Indians as compared to the health status of white persons. These grants shall focus on the use of preventive measures to support healthy lifestyles. The areas of focus on health status shall be infant mortality, HIV-AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, cancer, diabetes, and homicides and motor vehicle deaths.

Of the seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) in recurring funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for the Health Disparities Initiative in the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, shall allocate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in the 2007-2008 fiscal year into a special fund to be established by the Department as the Lucas, Holloman, Martin, Allen, Hunter, and Hall Minority Health Initiative Fund to honor the memory of and in recognition of the recent deaths of Senators Holloman, Lucas, and Bill Martin, and Representatives Bernard Allen, Howard Hunter, and John Hall. These funds shall be used for concerted efforts to address large gaps in health status among North Carolinians who are African-American, as well as disparities among other minority populations in North Carolina. These efforts shall include: (1)

- (1) Providing enhanced education and outreach to minority populations on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, breast cancer, diabetes, obesity, hypertension, sickle cell anemia, and HIV infection.
- (2) Addressing cultural and communication barriers to quality care by improving interpersonal processes between clinicians and patients.

**SECTION 10.22.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall report on the following with respect to funds appropriated to the CFEHDI program in fiscal years 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008. The report shall address for each fiscal year:

- (1) Which community programs and local health departments received CFEHDI grants.
- (2) What amount of funding did each program or local health department receive.
- (3) Which of the minority populations were served by the programs or local health departments.
- (4) Which counties were served by the programs or local health departments.
- (5) What activities were planned and implemented by the programs or local health departments to fulfill the community focus of the CFEHDI program.

The report shall also contain a comprehensive evaluation of all grantees with regard to fulfilling the goals of the program, assessing the difference the funded activities have made in the community, and addressing and mitigating the health disparities identified in the Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities in North Carolina, Report Card 2006. In addition, the Department shall solicit from the grantees their observations and recommendations on ways the CFEHDI program can best accomplish its goals. The report shall also include specific activities undertaken pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to address large gaps in health status among North Carolinians who are African-American and other minority populations in this State. The Department shall submit the report not later than March 1, 2008, to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

#### **FUNDS FOR SCHOOL NURSES**

**SECTION 10.23.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be used for the school nurse initiative. All funds appropriated or allocated for school nurses shall be used to supplement and not supplant other State, local, or federal funds appropriated or allocated for this purpose. Communities shall maintain their current level of effort and funding for school nurses.

These funds shall not be used for funding nurses for State agencies. All funds shall be used for direct services.

**SECTION 10.23.(b)** All school nurses funded with State funds shall participate, as needed, in child and family teams.

### PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDS TO AID COUNTIES

**SECTION 10.24.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated as noncategorical General Aid to County funds to improve the delivery of the 10 essential public health services, including prevention activities that focus on the prevention of suicide among adolescents and young adults, in all counties. These funds shall not be used to supplant existing State, federal, county, or other funds allocated for this purpose.

## HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION INVENTORY AND PLAN

**SECTION 10.25.(a)** In order to reduce costs and eliminate duplication of effort, the Department of Health and Human Services shall create an inventory of all of the health promotion and disease prevention activities, including funding, staffing, and other resources for these activities and also including funding and resources for related task forces and committees. The inventory shall include at a minimum State and local health department activities that address tobacco-use prevention and cessation, obesity, improved nutrition and diet, physical exercise, public awareness and education concerning asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and accomplishment of the goals of the federal government's Healthy People 2010 Report.

**SECTION 10.25.(b)** The Department shall adopt a plan to combine the resources for the activities listed in subsection (a) of this section into a single funding stream allocation to be distributed to local health departments to utilize in accomplishing the 10 essential services of public health, which shall encompass all of the activities listed in subsection (a) of this section. The Department shall develop a formula that will distribute these funds on an equitable basis and that takes into consideration the following factors for areas served by each local health department:

- (1) Rate of infant mortality.
- (2) Rate of adolescent pregnancy.
- (3) Rates of cancer, heart disease, and diabetes.
- (4) Number of persons without health insurance.
- (5) Median income.
- (6) Percent of county population enrolled in Medicaid.
- (7) Percent of the population that is minority.

**SECTION 10.25.(c)** The Department shall report on the inventory and the plan not later than February 1, 2008, to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

## AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.26.** For the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the Department may adjust the financial eligibility criterion of the ADAP up to an amount not exceeding two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level in order to serve as many eligible North Carolinians living with HIV disease as possible within existing resources plus any new federal resources. If the Department raises the

eligibility limit above one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the federal poverty level and a waiting list develops as a result, the Department shall give priority on the waiting list to those individuals at or below one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the federal poverty level.

### HIV AND HEPATITIS-C PREVENTION PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.27.** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for HIV prevention may also be used by the State Health Director and local health departments to implement three community-based harm reduction programs as part of a comprehensive Hepatitis C and HIV disease prevention program. These funds shall be used to support these programs in providing case management services, outreach, transportation, referrals for housing and medical care, and other services that will further the purpose of HIV and Hepatitis-C prevention. Pursuant to G.S. 90-113.22, these funds shall not be used to provide access to sterile syringes.

#### FUNDS FOR UNC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OASIS PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.27A.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for Purchase of Medical Care for Cancer, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, and the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, shall be allocated to the UNC School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry for the OASIS Program.

### CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM/ENHANCED STANDARDS

**SECTION 10.28.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall implement and maintain performance standards for each of the State and county child support enforcement offices across the State. These performance standards shall include the following:

- (1) Cost per collections.
- (2) Consumer satisfaction.
- (3) Paternity establishments.
- (4) Administrative costs.
- (5) Orders established.
- (6) Collections on arrearages.
- (7) Location of absent parents.
- (8) Other related performance measures.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall monitor the performance of each office and shall implement a system of reporting that allows each local office to review its performance as well as the performance of other local offices. The Department of Health and Human Services shall publish an annual performance report that shall include the statewide and local office performance of each child support office.

**SECTION 10.28.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall report on its progress, in compliance with this section, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division by May 1 of each even-numbered year beginning in 2008.

#### FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS

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**SECTION 10.29.(a)** The maximum rates for State participation in the foster care assistance program are established on a graduated scale as follows:

- (1) \$390.00 per child per month for children aged birth through 5;
- (2) \$440.00 per child per month for children aged 6 through 12; and
- (3) \$490.00 per child per month for children aged 13 through 18.

Of these amounts, fifteen dollars (\$15.00) is a special needs allowance for the child.

**SECTION 10.29.(b)** The maximum rates for State participation in the adoption assistance program are established on a graduated scale as follows:

- (1) \$390.00 per child per month for children aged birth through 5;
- (2) \$440.00 per child per month for children aged 6 through 12; and
- (3) \$490.00 per child per month for children aged 13 through 18.

**SECTION 10.29.(c)** In addition to providing board payments to foster and adoptive families of HIV-infected children, as prescribed in Section 23.28 of Chapter 324 of the 1995 Session Laws, any additional funds remaining that were appropriated for this purpose shall be used to provide medical training in avoiding HIV transmission in the home.

**SECTION 10.29.(d)** The maximum rates for the State participation in HIV foster care and adoption assistance are established on a graduated scale as follows:

- (1) \$800.00 per child per month with indeterminate HIV status;
- (2) \$1,000 per child per month confirmed HIV-infected, asymptomatic;
- (3) \$1,200 per child per month confirmed HIV-infected, symptomatic; and
- (4) \$1,600 per child per month terminally ill with complex care needs.

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## **CHILD CARING INSTITUTIONS**

**SECTION 10.30.** Until the Social Services Commission adopts rules setting standardized rates for child caring institutions as authorized under G.S. 143B-153(8), the maximum reimbursement for child caring institutions shall not exceed the rate established for the specific child caring institution by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Controller. In determining the maximum reimbursement, the State shall include county and IV-E reimbursements.

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#### SPECIAL CHILDREN ADOPTION FUND

35 an 36 sh 37 20 38 Ca 39 lic 40 lic 41 G. 42 Fu 43 sei 44 ac

SECTION 10.31.(a) Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services in this act, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) shall be used to support the Special Children Adoption Fund for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years. The Division of Social Services, in consultation with the North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services and representatives of licensed private adoption agencies, shall develop guidelines for the awarding of funds to licensed public and private adoption agencies upon the adoption of children described in G.S. 108A-50 and in foster care. Payments received from the Special Children Adoption Fund by participating agencies shall be used exclusively to enhance the adoption services. No local match shall be required as a condition for receipt of these funds. In accordance with State rules for allowable costs, the Special Children Adoption Fund may be used for post-adoption services for families whose income exceeds two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level.

**SECTION 10.31.(b)** Of the total funds appropriated for the Special Children Adoption Fund each year, twenty percent (20%) of the total funds available shall be reserved for payment to participating private adoption agencies. If the funds reserved in this subsection for payments to private agencies have not been spent on or before March

31, 2008, the Division of Social Services may reallocate those funds, in accordance with this section, to other participating adoption agencies.

**SECTION 10.31.(c)** The Division of Social Services shall monitor the total expenditures in the Special Children Adoption Fund and redistribute unspent funds to ensure that the funds are used according to the guidelines established in subsection (a) of this section. The Division shall implement strategies to ensure that funds that have historically reverted for this program are used for the intended purpose.

#### LIMITATION ON STATE ABORTION FUND

**SECTION 10.32.** The limitations on funding of the performance of abortion established in Section 23.27 of Chapter 324 of the 1995 Session Laws, as amended by Section 23.8A of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws, apply to the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years.

## INTENSIVE FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES FUNDING AND PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENTS

**SECTION 10.33.(a)** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143B-150.6, the Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS) Program shall provide intensive services to children and families in cases of abuse, neglect, and dependency where a child is at imminent risk of removal from the home and to children and families in cases of abuse where a child is not at imminent risk of removal. The Program shall be developed and implemented statewide on a regional basis. The IFPS shall ensure the application of standardized assessment criteria for determining imminent risk and clear criteria for determining out-of-home placement.

**SECTION 10.33.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall require that any program or entity that receives State, federal, or other funding for the purpose of Intensive Family Preservation Services shall provide information and data that allows for:

- (1) An established follow-up system with a minimum of six months of follow-up services.
- (2) Detailed information on the specific interventions applied including utilization indicators and performance measurement.
- (3) Cost-benefit data.
- (4) Data on long-term benefits associated with Intensive Family Preservation Services. This data shall be obtained by tracking families through the intervention process.
- (5) The number of families remaining intact and the associated interventions while in IFPS and 12 months thereafter.
- (6) The number and percentage by race of children who received Intensive Family Preservation Services compared to the ratio of their distribution in the general population involved with Child Protective Services.

**SECTION 10.33.(c)** The Department shall establish performance-based funding protocol and shall only provide funding to those programs and entities providing the required information specified in subsection (b) of this section. The amount of funding shall be based on the individual performance of each program.

**SECTION 10.33.(d)** The Department shall report on the Intensive Family Preservation Services Program, including the information and data under subdivisions (b)(2) through (b)(6) of this section, each even-numbered year beginning in 2008, to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

# CHILD WELFARE POSTSECONDARY SUPPORT PROGRAM/USE OF ESCHEAT FUND

**SECTION 10.34.(a)** There is appropriated from the Escheat Fund income to the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of three million one hundred seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,107,200) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of six million three hundred thirty-six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,336,500) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to implement a child welfare postsecondary support program for the educational needs of foster youth aging out of the foster care system and special needs children adopted from foster care after age 12 by providing assistance with tuition, fees, room and board, books, and course-required instructional materials. The Department shall collaborate with the State Education Assistance Authority to develop policies and procedures for the distribution of these funds.

If the interest income generated from the Escheat Fund is less than the amounts referenced in this subsection, the difference may be taken from the Escheat Fund principal to reach the appropriations referenced in this subsection; however, under no circumstances shall the Escheat Fund principal be reduced below the sum of four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000).

Funds appropriated by this subsection shall be allocated by the State Education Assistance Authority.

The purpose for which funds are appropriated under this subsection is in addition to other purposes for which Escheat Fund income is distributed under G.S. 116B-7 and shall not be construed to otherwise affect the distribution of funds under G.S. 116B-7.

**SECTION 10.34.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to be allocated to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA). The SEAA shall use these funds only to perform administrative functions necessary to manage and distribute scholarship funds under the child welfare postsecondary support program.

**SECTION 10.34.(c)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to contract with an entity to develop and administer the child welfare postsecondary support program described under subsection (a) of this section.

**SECTION 10.34.(d)** Funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services for the child welfare postsecondary support program shall be used only for students attending public institutions of higher education in this State.

#### TANF BENEFIT IMPLEMENTATION

**SECTION 10.35.(a)** The General Assembly approves the plan titled "North Carolina Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State Plan FY 2007-2009", prepared by the Department of Health and Human Services and presented to the General Assembly. The North Carolina Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State Plan covers the period October 1, 2007, through September 30, 2009. The Department shall submit the State Plan, as revised in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, as amended by this act or any other act of the 2007 General Assembly.

**SECTION 10.35.(b)** The counties approved as Electing Counties in North Carolina's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families State Plan FY 2007-2009 as approved by this section are: Beaufort, Caldwell, Catawba, Iredell, Lenoir, Lincoln, Macon, and Wilson.

**SECTION 10.35.(c)** Counties that submitted the letter of intent to remain as an Electing County or to be redesignated as an Electing County and the accompanying county plan for fiscal years 2007 through 2009, pursuant to G.S. 108A-27(e), shall operate under the Electing County budget requirements effective July 1, 2007. For programmatic purposes, all counties referred to in this subsection shall remain under their current county designation through September 30, 2007.

#### **MEDICAID**

**SECTION 10.36.(a)** Use of Funds, Allocation of Costs, Other Authorizations.

- (1) Use of Funds. Funds appropriated in this act for services provided in accordance with Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid) are for both the categorically needy and the medically needy.
- Allocation of Nonfederal Cost of Medicaid. Except as otherwise provided in this act, the State shall pay eighty-five percent (85%); the county shall pay fifteen percent (15%) of the nonfederal costs of all applicable services listed in this section. In addition, the State shall pay eighty-five percent (85%); the county shall pay fifteen percent (15%) of the federal Medicare Part D clawback payments under the Medicare Modernization Act of 2004.
- (3) Use of Funds for Development and Acquisition of Equipment and Software. If first approved by the Office of State Budget and Management, the Division of Medical Assistance, Department of Health and Human Services, may use funds that are identified to support the cost of development and acquisition of equipment and software and related operational costs through contractual means to improve and enhance information systems that provide management information and claims processing. The Department of Health and Human Services shall identify adequate funds to support the implementation and first year's operational costs that exceed funds allocated for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years for the new contract for the fiscal agent for the Medicaid Management Information System.
- (4) Reports. Unless otherwise provided, whenever the Department of Health and Human Services is required by this section to report to the General Assembly, the report shall be submitted to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee for Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division of the Legislative Services Office. Reports shall be submitted on the date provided in the reporting requirement.

### **SECTION 10.36.(b)** Policy. –

(1) Volume purchase plans and single source procurement. – The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, may, subject to the approval of a change in the State Medicaid Plan, contract for services, medical equipment, supplies, and appliances by implementation of volume purchase plans, single source

procurement, or other contracting processes in order to improve cost containment.

Cost-containment programs. – The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, may undertake

- (2) Cost-containment programs. The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, may undertake cost-containment programs, including contracting for services, preadmissions to hospitals, and prior approval for certain outpatient surgeries before they may be performed in an inpatient setting.
- (3) Fraud and abuse. The Division of Medical Assistance, Department of Health and Human Services, shall provide incentives to counties that successfully recover fraudulently spent Medicaid funds by sharing State savings with counties responsible for the recovery of the fraudulently spent funds.
- Medical policy. Unless required for compliance with federal law, the (4) Department shall not change medical policy affecting the amount, sufficiency, duration, and scope of health care services and who may provide services until the Division of Medical Assistance has prepared a five-year fiscal analysis documenting the increased cost of the proposed change in medical policy and submitted it for Departmental review. If the fiscal impact indicated by the fiscal analysis for any proposed medical policy change exceeds three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in total requirements for a given fiscal year, then the Department shall submit the proposed policy change with the fiscal analysis to the Office of State Budget and Management and the Fiscal Research Division. The Department shall not implement any proposed medical policy change exceeding three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in total requirements for a given fiscal year unless the source of State funding is identified and approved by the Office of State Budget and Management. The Department shall provide the Office of State Budget and Management and the Fiscal Research Division a quarterly report itemizing all medical policy changes with total requirements of less than three million dollars (\$3,000,000).

**SECTION 10.36.(c)** Eligibility. – Eligibility for Medicaid shall be determined in accordance with the following:

(1) Medicaid and Work First Family Assistance.

a. Income Eligibility Standards. – The maximum net family annual income eligibility standards for Medicaid and Work First Family Assistance and the Standard of Need for Work First Family Assistance shall be as follows:

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42 43		Standard of Need			
44		&		Families and	
45		Families and	WFFA*	Children &	
46	Family	Children	Payment	AA, AB, AD*	
47	Size	Income Level	Level	Income Level	
48	1	\$4,344	\$2,172	\$2,900	
49	2	5,664	2,832	3,800	
50	3	6,528	3,264	4,400	
51	4	7,128	3,564	4,800	

care adolescents", ages 18, 19, and 20, as defined in Section 1904(w)(1) of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1396d(w)(1)], without regard to the adolescent's assets, resources, or income levels.

(5) ICF and ICF/MR Work Incentive Allowances. – The Department of Health and Human Services may provide an incentive allowance to Medicaid-eligible recipients of ICF and ICF/MR services, who are regularly engaged in work activities as part of their developmental plan, and for whom retention of additional income contributes to their achievement of independence. The State funds required to match the federal funds that are required by these allowances shall be provided from savings within the Medicaid budget or from other unbudgeted funds available to the Department. The incentive allowances may be as follows:

Monthly Net WagesMonthly Incentive Allowance\$1.00 to \$100.99Up to \$50.00\$101.00 to \$200.99\$80.00\$201.00 to \$300.99\$130.00\$301.00 and greater\$212.00

(6) The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall provide Medicaid coverage to women who need treatment for breast or cervical cancer and who are defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1396(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVIII).

**SECTION 10.36.(d)** Services and Payment Bases. – The Department shall spend funds appropriated for Medicaid services in accordance with the following schedule of services and payment bases. All services and payments are subject to the language at the end of this subsection. Unless otherwise provided, services and payment bases will be as prescribed in the State Plan as established by the Department of Health and Human Services and may be changed with the approval of the Director of the Budget.

- (1) Hospital inpatient.
- (2) Hospital outpatient. Eighty percent (80%) of allowable costs or a prospective reimbursement plan as established by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (3) Nursing facilities. Nursing facilities providing services to Medicaid recipients who also qualify for Medicare must be enrolled in the Medicare program as a condition of participation in the Medicaid program. State facilities are not subject to the requirement to enroll in the Medicare program. Residents of nursing facilities who are eligible for Medicare coverage of nursing facility services must be placed in a Medicare-certified bed. Medicaid shall cover facility services only after the appropriate services have been billed to Medicare.
- (4) Physicians, certified nurse midwife services, certified registered nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners. Fee schedules as developed by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (5) Community Alternative Program, EPSDT Screens. Payments in accordance with rate schedule developed by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (6) Home health and related services, durable medical equipment. Payments according to reimbursement plans developed by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (7) Hearing aids. Wholesale cost plus dispensing fee to provider.

Rural health clinical services. - Provider-based, reasonable cost; 1 (8) 2 non-provider-based, single-cost reimbursement rate per clinic visit. 3 (9) Family planning. – Negotiated rate for local health departments. For 4 other providers see specific services, e.g., hospitals, physicians. 5 Independent laboratory and X-ray services. – Uniform fee schedules as (10)6 developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. 7 (11)Ambulatory surgical centers. 8 Private duty nursing, clinic services, prepaid health plans. (12)9 Intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded. (13)10 (14)Chiropractors, podiatrists, optometrists, dentists. 11 (15)Limitations on Dental Coverage. – Dental services shall be provided 12 on a restricted basis in accordance with criteria adopted by the 13 Department to implement this subsection. 14 Medicare Buy-In. – Social Security Administration premium. (16)15 (17)Ambulance services. – Uniform fee schedules as developed by the 16 Department of Health and Human Services. Public ambulance 17 providers will be reimbursed at cost. 18 (18)Optical supplies. – Payment for materials is made to a contractor in 19 accordance with 42 C.F.R. § 431.54(d). Fees paid to dispensing 20 providers are negotiated fees established by the State agency based on 21 industry charges. 22 (19)Medicare crossover claims. – The Department shall apply Medicaid 23 medical policy to Medicare claims for dually eligible recipients. The 24 Department shall pay an amount up to the actual coinsurance or 25 deductible or both, in accordance with the State Plan, as approved by 26 the Department of Health and Human Services. 27 (20)Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. – Services limited to EPSDT-eligible children. Payments are to be made only to 28 29 qualified providers at rates negotiated by the Department of Health and 30 Human Services. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech 31 therapy services are subject to prior approval and utilization review. 32 (21)Personal care services. 33 (22)Case management services. – Reimbursement in accordance with the 34 availability of funds to be transferred within the Department of Health 35 and Human Services. 36 (23)Hospice. 37 (24)Medically necessary prosthetics or orthotics for children. – In order to 38 be eligible for reimbursement, providers must be licensed or certified 39 by the occupational licensing board or the certification authority 40 having authority over the provider's license or certification. Medically 41 necessary prosthetics and orthotics for children are subject to prior 42 approval and utilization review. 43 Health insurance premiums. (25)44 (26)Medical care/other remedial care. – Services not covered elsewhere in 45 this section include related services in schools; health professional 46 services provided outside the clinic setting to meet maternal and infant 47 health goals; and services to meet federal EPSDT mandates. 48 (27)Pregnancy-related services. – Covered services for pregnant women 49 shall include nutritional counseling, psychosocial counseling, and 50 predelivery and postpartum home visits by maternity care coordinators

and public health nurses.

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(28)Drugs. – Reimbursements, Reimbursements shall be available for prescription drugs as allowed by federal regulations plus a professional services fee per month, excluding refills for the same drug or generic equivalent during the same month. Payments for drugs are subject to the provisions of this subdivision or in accordance with the State Plan adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services, consistent with federal reimbursement regulations. Payment of the professional services fee shall be made in accordance with the State Plan adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services, consistent with federal reimbursement regulations. The professional services fee shall be five dollars and sixty cents (\$5.60) per prescription for generic drugs and four dollars (\$4.00) per prescription for brand-name drugs. Adjustments to the professional services fee shall be established by the General Assembly. In addition to the professional services fee, the Department may pay an enhanced fee for pharmacy services.

Limitations on quantity. – The Department of Health and Human Services may establish authorizations, limitations, and reviews for specific drugs, drug classes, brands, or quantities in order to manage effectively the Medicaid pharmacy program, except that the Department shall not impose limitations on brand-name medications for which there is a generic equivalent in cases where the prescriber has determined, at the time the drug is prescribed, that the brand-name drug is medically necessary and has written on the prescription order the phrase "medically necessary".

Dispensing of generic drugs. – Notwithstanding G.S. 90-85.27 through G.S. 90-85.31, or any other law to the contrary, under the Medical Assistance Program (Title XIX of the Social Security Act), and except as otherwise provided in this subsection for atypical antipsychotic drugs and drugs listed in the narrow therapeutic index, a prescription order for a drug designated by a trade or brand name shall be considered to be an order for the drug by its established or generic name, except when the prescriber has determined, at the time the drug is prescribed, that the brand-name drug is medically necessary and has written on the prescription order the phrase "medically necessary". An initial prescription order for an atypical antipsychotic drug or a drug listed in the narrow therapeutic drug index that does not contain the phrase "medically necessary" shall be considered an order for the drug by its established or generic name, except that a pharmacy shall not substitute a generic or established name prescription drug for subsequent brand or trade name prescription orders of the same prescription drug without explicit oral or written approval of the prescriber given at the time the order is filled. Generic drugs shall be dispensed at a lower cost to the Medical Assistance Program rather than trade or brand-name drugs. As used in this subsection, "brand name" means the proprietary name the manufacturer places upon a drug product or on its container, label, or wrapping at the time of packaging; and "established name" has the same meaning as in section 502(e)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act as amended, 21 U.S.C. § 352(e)(3).

Prior authorization. – The Department of Health and Human Services shall not impose prior authorization requirements or other

restrictions under the State Medical Assistance Program on medications prescribed for Medicaid recipients for the treatment of: (i) mental illness, including, but not limited to, medications for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depressive disorder, or (ii) HIV/AIDS.

- (29) Other mental health services. Unless otherwise covered by this section, coverage is limited to:
  - a. Services as defined by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) when provided in agencies meeting the requirements of the rules established by the Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and reimbursement is made in accordance with a State Plan developed by the Department of Health and Human Services not to exceed the upper limits established in federal regulations, and
  - b. For children eligible for EPSDT services provided by:
    - 1. Licensed or certified psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, certified clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric mental health advanced practice, nurse practitioners certified as clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric mental health advanced practice, licensed professional psychological associates, licensed counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, certified clinical addictions specialists, and certified clinical supervisors, when Medicaid-eligible children are referred by the Community Care of North Carolina primary care physician, a Medicaid-enrolled psychiatrist, or the area mental health program or local management entity, and
    - 2. Institutional providers of residential services as defined by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for children and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility services that meet federal and State requirements as defined by the Department.
  - c. For Medicaid-eligible adults, services provided by licensed or certified psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, certified clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric mental health advanced practice, and nurse practitioners certified as clinical nurse specialists in psychiatric mental health advanced practice, licensed psychological associates, licensed professional counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical addictions specialists, and licensed clinical supervisors, Medicaid-eligible adults may be self-referred.
  - d. Payments made for services rendered in accordance with this subdivision shall be to qualified providers in accordance with approved policies and the State Plan. Nothing in sub-subdivision b. or c. of this subdivision shall be interpreted

to modify the scope of practice of any service provider, practitioner, or licensee, nor to modify or attenuate any collaboration or supervision requirement related to the professional activities of any service provider, practitioner, or licensee. Nothing in sub-subdivision b. or c. of this subdivision shall be interpreted to require any private health insurer or health plan to make direct third-party reimbursements or payments to any service provider, practitioner, or licensee.

Notwithstanding G.S. 150B-21.1(a), the Department of Health and Human Services may adopt temporary rules in accordance with Chapter 150B of the General Statutes further defining the qualifications of providers and referral procedures in order to implement this subdivision. Coverage policy for services defined by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services under sub-subdivisions a. and b.2 of this subdivision shall be established by the Division of Medical Assistance.

### **SECTION 10.36.(e)** Provider payments and visits.—

- Payment is limited to Medicaid-enrolled providers that purchase a (1) performance bond in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) naming as beneficiary the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, or provide to the Department a validly executed letter of credit or other financial instrument issued by a financial institution or agency honoring a demand for payment in an equivalent amount. The Department may waive or limit the requirements of this paragraph for one or more classes of Medicaid-enrolled providers based on the provider's dollar amount of monthly billings to Medicaid or the length of time the provider has been licensed in this State to provide services. In waiving or limiting requirements of this paragraph, the Department shall take into consideration the potential fiscal impact of the waiver or limitation on the State Medicaid Program. The Department may adopt temporary rules in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.1 as necessary to implement this provision.
- Reimbursement is available for visits per recipient per fiscal year to (2) any one or combination of the following: physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, clinics, hospital outpatient, health departments, optometrists, chiropractors, and podiatrists. A threshold of 24 visits shall be established. Primary care providers or the appropriate CCNC network shall be notified when a patient is nearing the established threshold to facilitate care coordination and intervention as needed. The Department shall ensure that all visits beyond 50 are reviewed for medical necessity and approval on a case-by-case basis. Mandatory services include those provided by physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and hospital outpatient services. Optional services including those provided by chiropractors, optometrists, and podiatrists shall require prior authorization for each visit over eight within a fiscal year. The Division of Medical Assistance shall study and evaluate changes in utilization services. Prenatal services, all EPSDT children, emergency rooms, and mental health services subject to independent utilization review are exempt from the visit limitations contained in this

paragraph. Exceptions may be authorized by the Department of Health and Human Services where the life of the patient would be threatened without such additional care.

**SECTION 10.36.(f)** Exceptions and limitations on services; authorization of co-payments and other services.

- (1) Exceptions to Service Limitations, Eligibility Requirements, and Payments. Service limitations, eligibility requirements, and payments bases in this section may be waived by the Department of Health and Human Services, with the approval of the Director of the Budget, to allow the Department to carry out pilot programs for prepaid health plans, contracting for services, managed care plans, or community-based services programs in accordance with plans approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or when the Department determines that such a waiver will result in a reduction in the total Medicaid costs for the recipient.
- (2) Co-Payment for Medicaid Services. The Department of Health and Human Services may establish co-payments up to the maximum permitted by federal law and regulation.

## **SECTION 10.36.(g)** Rules, Reports, and Other Matters. –

- (1) Rules. The Department of Health and Human Services may adopt temporary or emergency rules according to the procedures established in G.S. 150B-21.1 and G.S. 150B-21.1A when it finds that these rules are necessary to maximize receipt of federal funds within existing State appropriations, to reduce Medicaid expenditures, and to reduce fraud and abuse. Prior to the filing of these temporary or emergency rules with the Rules Review Commission and the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Department shall consult with the Office of State Budget and Management on the possible fiscal impact of the temporary or emergency rule and its effect on State appropriations and local governments.
- (2) Changes to Medicaid program; reports. The Department shall report on any change it anticipates making in the Medicaid program that impacts the type or level of service, reimbursement methods, or waivers, any of which require a change in the State Plan or other approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The reports shall be provided at the same time they are submitted to CMS for approval. In addition to the entities listed in subsection (a)(4) of this section, the report shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Health Care Oversight Committee.

#### MEDICAID COST-CONTAINMENT ACTIVITIES

**SECTION 10.37.** The Department of Health and Human Services may use up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in the 2007-2008 fiscal year and up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in the 2008-2009 fiscal year in Medicaid funds budgeted for program services to support the cost of administrative activities when cost-effectiveness and savings are demonstrated. The funds shall be used to support activities that will contain the cost of the Medicaid Program, including contracting for services, hiring additional staff, or providing grants through the Office of Rural Health and Community Care to plan, develop, and implement cost-containment programs.

Medicaid cost-containment activities may include prospective reimbursement methods, incentive-based reimbursement methods, service limits, prior authorization of services, periodic medical necessity reviews, revised medical necessity criteria, service provision in the least costly settings, plastic magnetic stripped Medicaid identification cards for issuance to Medicaid enrollees, fraud detection software or other fraud detection activities, technology that improves clinical decision making, credit balance recovery and data mining services, and other cost-containment activities. Funds may be expended under this section only after the Office of State Budget and Management has approved a proposal for the expenditure submitted by the Department. Proposals for expenditure of funds under this section shall include the cost of implementing the cost-containment activity and documentation of the amount of savings expected to be realized from the cost-containment activity. The Department shall provide a copy of proposals for expenditures under this section to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division. On or before October 1, 2007, the Department shall also report the amounts paid for cost-containment activities in fiscal years 2003-2004 through 2006-2007, and the amount of savings realized from cost-containment activities in fiscal years 2003-2004 through 2006-2007.

#### **COUNTY MEDICAID COST-SHARE**

**SECTION 10.38.(a)** Effective July 1, 2000, the county share of the cost of Medicaid services currently and previously provided by Local Management Entities shall be increased incrementally each fiscal year until the county share reaches fifteen percent (15%) of the nonfederal share by State fiscal year 2009-2010.

**SECTION 10.38.(b)** Effective July 1, 2000, the county share of the cost of Medicaid Personal Care Services paid to adult care homes shall be decreased incrementally each fiscal year until the county share reaches fifteen percent (15%) of the nonfederal share by State fiscal year 2009-2010.

#### DISPOSITION OF DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE RECEIPTS

**SECTION 10.39.(a)** Disproportionate share receipts reserved at the end of the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years shall be deposited with the Department of State Treasurer as nontax revenue for each of those fiscal years.

**SECTION 10.39.(b)** For each year of the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, as it receives funds associated with Disproportionate Share Payments from State hospitals, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall deposit up to one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) of these Disproportionate Share Payments to the Department of State Treasurer for deposit as nontax revenue. Any Disproportionate Share Payments collected in excess of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) shall be reserved by the State Treasurer for future appropriations.

### MEDICAID SPECIAL FUND TRANSFER

**SECTION 10.40.** Of the funds transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services for Medicaid programs pursuant to G.S. 143C-9-1, there is appropriated from the Medicaid Special Fund the sum of fifty-three million dollars (\$53,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of fifty-three million dollars (\$53,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated as prescribed by G.S. 143C-9-1(b) for Medicaid programs. Notwithstanding the prescription in G.S. 143C-9-1(b) that these funds not reduce State general revenue funding, these funds shall replace the reduction in general revenue funding effected in this act. The Department may also use funds in the Medicaid Special Fund to fund the

settlement of the Disproportionate Share Hospital payment audit issues between the Department of Health and Human Services and the federal government related to fiscal years 1997-2002, and funds are appropriated from the fund for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium for this purpose.

## IMPLEMENT ELECTRONIC QUALITY PRESCRIPTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.41.** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, in consultation with the Community Care of NC (CCNC) program, shall implement an Electronic Quality Prescription Management program for prescription drugs through the use of personal data assistance (PDA) technology. The Division may designate CCNC through the Office of Rural Health and Community Care as the lead program to implement this section and shall assist CCNC by providing cost containment funds to purchase PDAs, connectivity, and software, and for other related costs.

## DELAY EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGES TO MEDICAID ESTATE RECOVERY PLAN

**SECTION 10.42.** Section 10.21C(c) of S.L. 2005-276, as amended by Section 16 of S.L. 2005-345, and as further amended by Section 10.9B of S.L. 2006-66, reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 10.21C.(c) This section becomes effective July 1, 2007,2009, and applies to recipients of medical assistance on or after that date."

### TICKET TO WORK EFFECTIVE DATE CHANGE

**SECTION 10.43.** Section 10.18(c) of S.L. 2005-276, as amended by Section 10.9(a) of S.L. 2006-66, reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 10.18.(c)** Subsection (b) of this section becomes effective July 1, 2006. Subsection (a) of this section becomes effective July 1, 2007.2008."

## EXTEND IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES PROGRAMS REIMBURSEMENT SYSTEM

**SECTION 10.44.** Full implementation for the Community Alternatives Programs reimbursement system shall be not later than twelve months after the date on which the replacement Medicaid Management Information System becomes operational and stabilized.

## DEPARTMENTAL STUDY OF COST-SHARING UNDER THE CAP MR/DD PROGRAM AND THE CAP-CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.45.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall study the feasibility and cost-savings of imposing an income-based cost-sharing requirement under the CAP-MR/DD (Community Alternatives Program for Mental Retardation and Developmentally Disabled) Program and the CAP-C (Community Alternatives Program for Children). In conducting the study, the Department shall:

- (1) Take into account the impact on families with more than one child in the CAP programs.
- (2) Examine how other states have implemented cost-sharing in their CAP programs, the components of cost-sharing, and the resulting savings to the state's Medicaid program.

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Whether other states that have implemented cost-sharing in CAP (3) programs have provided for public input prior to implementation of the cost-sharing requirements.

Other matters the Department deems relevant to the determination of (4) whether cost-sharing in CAP programs should be implemented in this State.

**SECTION 10.45.(b)** The Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division on or before March 1, 2008. If the Department recommends the implementation of cost-sharing, the report shall indicate cost-sharing amounts or percentages, family income levels that would trigger cost-sharing, and the administrative costs and savings to the State. If the Department recommends that cost-sharing not be implemented, it shall state the reasons therefor.

## CONTINUE EFFORTS TO EXPAND COMMUNITY CARE AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF CARE FOR AGED, BLIND, AND DISABLED MEDICAID RECIPIENTS

**SECTION 10.46.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall continue its efforts to expand the scope of Community Care of NC care management model to recipients of Medicaid and dually eligible individuals with a chronic condition and long-term care needs. In expanding the scope, the Department shall focus on the Aged, Blind, and Disabled, and CAP-DA populations for improvement in management, cost-effectiveness, and local coordination of services through Community Care of NC and in collaboration with local providers of care. The Department shall target personal care services, private duty nursing, home health, durable medical equipment, ancillary professional services, specialty care, residential services, including skilled nursing facilities, home infusion therapy, pharmacy, and other services determined The Department shall pilot communitywide target-worthy by the Department. initiatives and shall expand statewide successful models. The initiatives may include one or more pilot projects to control costs and improve quality of care for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled recipients of Medicaid.

**SECTION 10.46.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall report not later than March 1, 2008, on the status of the implementation and findings of this pilot project with regard to improving the quality of care and controlling the cost of care for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled recipients of Medicaid. The report shall also address the Department's plans for expanding the pilot project and implementing the practices for all Aged, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid recipients in the State. Department shall submit the report to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

#### NC HEALTH CHOICE ENROLLMENT

**SECTION 10.47.** The Department of Health and Human Services may allow up to three percent (3%) enrollment growth in the NC Health Choice Program every six months.

#### NC KIDS' CARE

**SECTION 10.48.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall develop and implement a limited benefit medical assistance program, NC Kids' Care, to expand health care coverage to children in families with incomes between two hundred percent (200%) and three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty guidelines, as revised April 1 of every year. The Department shall apply for any federal Medicaid waivers required to implement this section. Eligibility for and benefits under this program are not entitlement and are subject to availability of funds and other changes to State and federal law.

**SECTION 10.48.(b)** Eligibility. – The Department may enroll eligible children based on the availability of funds. Following are the eligibility and other requirements for participation in NC Kids' Care children must:

- (1) Be between the ages of birth and 19 years of age;
- (2) Be ineligible for Medicaid, Medicare, or other government sponsored health insurance;
- (3) Have been uninsured for three months;
- (4) Be in a family whose family income is above two hundred percent (200%) through three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty level:
- (5) Be a resident of this State, meet applicable federal citizenship and immigration requirements, and be eligible under Federal law; and
- (6) Have paid the monthly premiums required by NC Kids' Care.

**SECTION 10.48.(c)** Benefits and Limitations. – Except as otherwise provided, health benefits, including limitations, provided to children shall be as follows:

- (1) Excluded benefits:
  - a. Dental.
  - b. Maternity.
  - c. Skilled nursing facility.
  - d. Personal care services.
- (2) Capped benefits:
  - a. Inpatient physical health benefits are limited to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per eligible child.
  - b. Inpatient behavioral health benefits are limited to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per eligible child.
  - c. Outpatient behavioral health benefits are limited to 26 visits annually.
  - d. Primary care and special care physician visits are limited to five annually, except that:
    - 1. Additional specialty physician visits are allowed if approved by a primary care physician enrolled in Community Care of North Carolina; and
    - 2. Additional wellness visits are allowed according to a predetermined schedule.
  - e. Prescriptions are limited to six per month, but this limit is waived if the child is participating in a Community Care of North Carolina case or disease management program.
  - f. Durable medical equipment and supplies are limited to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) with prior approval by CCNC, except there is no limit on diabetic supplies.

**SECTION 10.48.(d)** Community Care of North Carolina. – The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide services to children enrolled in the NC Kids' Care program through Community Care of North Carolina and shall pay Community Care of North Carolina providers for these services as allowed under Medicaid.

- **SECTION 10.48.(e)** Cost Sharing. NC Kids' Care shall require enrollees to contribute to the cost of their care through the use of deductibles, co-payments, coinsurance, and premiums as follows:
  - (1) A monthly premium is to be charged for each child enrolled in NC Kids' Care.
  - (2) The premium amount charged for each child shall vary depending on family income between two hundred percent (200%) FPL and three hundred percent (300%) FPL, except that:
    - a. The average premium charged for a child between two hundred percent (200%) and three hundred percent (300%) FPL shall not be more than sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) PM/PM; and
    - b. The total premium cost shall not exceed two percent (2%) of an individual's annual income and four percent (4%) of a family's annual income.
  - (3) Coinsurance of not more than twenty percent (20%) may apply to the following benefits:
    - a. Inpatient physical health;
    - b. Outpatient physical health;
    - c. Surgery;
    - d. Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy;
    - e. Emergency room;
    - f. Inpatient behavioral health;
    - g. Laboratory and radiology;
    - h. Durable medical supplies; and
    - i. Ambulance services.
  - (4) The maximum out-of-pocket coinsurance is two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per child annually.
  - (5) Co-Payments. NC Kids' Care may require enrollees to pay a copayment for the following services offered. The co-payment for each service shall not exceed:
    - a. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for a primary care physician visit;
    - b. Forty dollars (\$40.00) for a specialty care physician visit;
    - c. One hundred dollars (\$100.00) for an emergency room visit, except the co-payment is waived if the enrollee is admitted to the hospital;
    - d. One hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for ambulance service, except the co-payment is waived if the enrollee is admitted to the hospital;
    - e. Prescription drugs, as follows:
      - 1. Five dollars (\$5.00) for each generic drug prescription;
      - 2. Thirty dollars (\$30.00) for each brand-name drug prescription; and
      - 3. Sixty dollars (\$60.00) for each brand-name drug prescription, not on the list of preferred drugs.

**SECTION 10.48.(f)** Enrollment in NC Kids' Care shall not exceed funds appropriated for the program.

**SECTION 10.48.(g)** The nonfederal costs of NC Kids' Care shall be paid with State funds and enrollee premiums. Counties shall not be required to share in the nonfederal costs of NC Kids' Care.

**SECTION 10.48.(h)** Providers of services under NC Kids' Care shall be paid at Medicare rates except that pharmacy providers shall be paid at Medicaid rates.

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**SECTION 10.48.(i)** Until such time as the Department of Health and Human Services has an electronic data system that has the ability to collect and accept premiums and provide the other management activities inherent in administering NC Kids' Care, the Department may contract with a third party to administer this program.

**SECTION 10.48.(j)** This section becomes effective January 1, 2008, or upon approval of all required federal waivers and State Medical Assistance Plan amendments, whichever is later.

### IN-HOME SERVICES RATE ADJUSTMENT

**SECTION 10.48A.(a)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, for Aid to Local Health Departments, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in each fiscal year shall be transferred to the Division of Medical Assistance to be used for the purposes stated in subsection (c) of this section.

**SECTION 10.48A.(b)** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, the reduction in funds in this act for cost containment activities in the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, is increased in each fiscal year by two million dollars (\$2,000,000). Funds made available from this increased reduction shall be used for the purposes stated in subsection (c) of this section.

**SECTION 10.48A.(c)** Of the funds allocated to the Division of Medical Assistance in this section, the sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in each fiscal year shall be used to provide funding for rate increases for home health and personal care services providers, effective October 1, 2007.

#### BUILD COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MENTAL HEALTH. DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

### INCREASE AVAILABILITY OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT.

**SECTION 10.49.(a)** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services for regionally funded, locally hosted substance abuse services shall be allocated for the purpose of developing and enhancing the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) continuum of care at the community level. The Division shall develop and direct purchasing mechanisms to improve the availability of substance abuse services offered on a local, regional, and statewide basis in coordination with one or more local management entities. In the event a local management entity is unable or unwilling to contract with a substance abuse provider for substance abuse services envisioned in this section, the Division may enter into a contract with substance abuse service providers, and, in such cases, the requirements of G.S. 122C-124.1 shall not apply.

**SECTION 10.49.(b)** G.S. 122C-147.1 is amended by adding the following new subsection to read:

"(d1) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (d) of this section, each area program shall determine whether to earn the funds for crisis services and funds for services to substance abuse clients in a purchase-for-service basis, under a grant, or some combination of the two. Area programs shall account for funds expended on a grant basis according to procedures required by the Secretary and in a manner that is similar to funds expended in a purchase-for-service basis.

**SECTION 10.49.(c)** Consistent with G.S. 122C-2, the General Assembly strongly encourages LMEs to use a portion of the funds appropriated for substance abuse treatment services to support prevention and education activities.

**SECTION 10.49.(d)** An LME may use up to one percent (1%) of funds allocated to it for substance abuse treatment services to provide nominal incentives for consumers who achieve specified treatment benchmarks.

**SECTION 10.49.(e1)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

- \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year shall be used to provide substance abuse services for adult offenders and shall include increasing the number of TASC case managers; and
- \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year to provide treatment for existing preand post-plea Adult Treatment Courts within the targeted populations for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services as defined in G.S. 122C-3(38).

In addition to these funds, the Department shall allocate up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC). These funds shall be allocated to TASC before funds are allocated to local management entities for mental health services, substance abuse services, and crisis services.

**SECTION 10.49.(e2)** In providing treatment and services under subsection (e1) of this section, the local management entity shall consult with:

- (1) TASC to improve offender access to substance abuse treatment and match evidence-based interventions to individual needs at each stage of substance abuse treatment. Special emphasis should be placed on intermediate punishment offenders, community punishment offenders at risk for revocation, and DOC releasees who have completed substance abuse treatment while in custody.
- (2) The local drug treatment court team and shall select a treatment provider that meets all provider qualification requirements and the drug treatment court's needs. A single treatment provider may be chosen for non-Medicaid-eligible participants only. A single provider may be chosen who can work with all of the non-Medicaid-eligible drug treatment court participants in a single group. During the 52-week Drug Treatment Court program, participants shall receive an array of treatment and after-care services that meets the participant's level of need, including step-down services that support continued recovery.

**SECTION 10.49.(f)** Local management entities shall work with county public health departments and county sheriffs to provide medical assessments and medication, if appropriate, for inmates housed in county jails who are suicidal, hallucinating, or delusional. LMEs shall also examine ways to provide additional treatment to persons who are determined to be psychotic, severely depressed, suicidal, or who have substance abuse disorders. LMEs, county public health departments, and county sheriffs shall work together to develop all of the following:

- (1) A statewide standardized evidence-based screening instrument to be used when offenders are booked.
- (2) A designated LME employee who is responsible for screening the daily jail booking log for known mental health consumers.
- (3) Protocols for effective communication between the LME and the jail staff including collaborative development of medication management protocols between the jail staff and the mental health providers.

(4) Training to help detention officers recognize signals of mental illness.

# ADDITIONAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

**SECTION 10.49.(g)** The independent and supportive living apartments for persons with disabilities constructed from funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency for that purpose shall be affordable to persons with incomes at the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) level. The Department shall maximize the number of subsidies that can be paid for with these funds by giving first priority to North Carolina Housing Agency-financed apartments, giving second priority to other publicly subsidized apartments, and third priority to market-rate apartments.

SECTION 10.49.(h) The Department of Health and Human Services and the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency shall work together to develop a plan for the most efficient and effective use of State resources in the financing and construction of additional independent- and supportive-living apartments for individuals with mental health, developmental, or substance abuse disabilities. This plan shall address gaps in the housing continuum identified by the study that DHHS will conduct during fiscal year 2006-2007 and fiscal year 2007-2008. DHHS and NCHFA shall report this plan and also the progress of the Housing 400 Initiative to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services by March 1, 2008. The report shall include a count of the population with mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse disabilities residing in apartments financed with State resources and shall also include the number of apartments projected for completion in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

**SECTION 10.49.(i)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop a "Transitional Residential Treatment Program" service definition to provide 24-hour residential treatment and rehabilitation for adults who have a pattern of difficult behaviors related to mental illness, which exceeds the capabilities of traditional community residential settings. DHHS shall submit the new service definition to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for approval no later than 90 days after the enactment of the Current Operations and Capital Appropriations Act for the 2007-2009 biennium.

**SECTION 10.49.(j)** The joint ad hoc subcommittee regarding the mentally ill in adult care homes convened by the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and the North Carolina Commission on Aging may continue to study and identify rules and laws that are necessary to regulate facilities that provide housing for adults with mental illness in the same location with adults without mental illness.

**SECTION 10.49.(k)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall complete the development of a Uniform Screening Tool (UST) to be used by LMEs to determine the mental health of any individual admitted to any long-term care facility within an LME's catchment area. The UST shall be available for use no later than 90 days after the enactment of the Current Operations and Capital Appropriations Act for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium.

**SECTION 10.49.(1)** LMEs shall be responsible for the delivery of case management for recipients of State-County Special Assistance In-Home services who have a mental illness, developmental disability, or substance abuse disorder and are within the target populations for those disabilities.

### CRISIS AND ACUTE CARE SERVICES.

**SECTION 10.49.(m)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated to LMEs to continue to implement the crisis plans developed under S.L. 2006-66, Section 10.26. DHHS may use up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) of the funds appropriated under this section to extend its contract with the crisis services consultant authorized under Section 10.26(b) of S.L. 2006-66.

**SECTION 10.49.(n)** S.L. 2006-66, Section 10.26(d), as amended by Section 11 of S.L. 2006-221, reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 10.26.(d) With the assistance of the consultant, the LMEs within a crisis region shall work together to identify gaps in their ability to provide a continuum of crisis services for all consumers and use the funds allocated to them to develop and implement a plan to address those needs. At a minimum, the plan must address the development over time of the following components: 24-hour crisis telephone lines, walk-in crisis services, mobile crisis outreach, crisis respite/residential services, crisis stabilization units, 23-hour beds, facility-based crisis, in-patient crisis, detox, and transportation. Options for voluntary admissions to a secured facility must include at least one service appropriate to address the mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse needs of children. Options for involuntary commitment to a secured facility must include at least one option in addition to admission to a State facility.

If all LMEs in a crisis region determine that a facility-based crisis center is needed and sustainable on a long-term basis, the crisis region shall first attempt to secure those services through a community hospital or other community facility. If all LMEs in the crisis region determine the region's crisis needs are being met, the LMEs may use the funds to meet local crisis service needs."

**SECTION 10.49.(o)** LMEs shall report monthly to the Department and to the consultant regarding the use of the funds, whether there has been a reduction in the use of State psychiatric hospitals for acute admissions, and any remaining gaps in local and regional crisis services. The consultant and the Department shall report quarterly to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services regarding each LME's proposed and actual use of the funds appropriated under this section. The reporting requirements under this subsection shall expire July 1, 2008.

**SECTION 10.49.(p)** LMEs shall work with sheriffs and county public health agencies to serve individuals who are incarcerated or being held in county jails and who are in need of crisis services.

**SECTION 10.49.(q)** G.S. 122C-147.1 is amended by adding the following new subsection to read:

"(b1) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, funds appropriated by the General Assembly for crisis services shall not be allocated in broad disability or age/disability categories. Subsection (c) of this section shall apply to funds appropriated by the General Assembly for crisis services."

**SECTION 10.49.(r)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop a system for reporting to LMEs information regarding all visits to community hospital emergency departments by individuals who are in crisis due to a mental illness, a developmental disability, or a substance abuse disorder. The system shall be

implemented no later than 90 days after the enactment of the Current Operations and Capital Appropriations Act for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium.

**SECTION 10.49.(s1)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (Division), the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be used to develop a pilot program to reduce State psychiatric hospital use and to increase local services for persons with mental illness. Of these funds, the sum of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) shall be allocated to LMEs to be used in accordance with subdivision (c)(6) of this section. The Division and a selected LME shall implement a six-month pilot for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide funds to expand the pilot program in the 2008-2009 fiscal year. To this end, the Division shall develop a plan for expanded pilots as provided in subsection (d) of this section.

**SECTION 10.49.(s2)** The purpose of the six-month pilot program developed under subsection (s1) of this section and to be implemented during the 2007-2008 fiscal year is to test a mechanism to reduce psychiatric hospital use by holding an LME financially and clinically responsible for the cost of that use and by providing additional resources to build community capacity. LMEs that are interested in participating in this pilot shall submit a proposal to the Division no later than October 15, 2007. The proposal shall include a plan by the LME to reduce hospital use by a specified amount and an explanation of how the LME expects to accomplish this goal. To facilitate pilot implementation, the Division shall do all of the following:

- (1) Calculate the cost of each LME's 2006-2007 use of State psychiatric hospital services based roughly on that hospital's total budget and the percentage of patients at the hospital admitted from the LME's catchment area.
- (2) Calculate a daily rate for hospital usage based on 2006-2007 statewide usage. The daily rate shall be higher for subsequent admissions by the same patient and higher for patients admitted with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse.
- (3) Provide the results from subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection to all LMEs not later than September 1, 2007.
- (4) Award pilot participation not later than November 1, 2007, based upon the proposal that projects the largest decrease in use and that the Division believes has the greatest likelihood of succeeding.
- (5) Commence pilot implementation not later than January 1, 2008.

**SECTION 10.49.(s3)** Parameters of the pilot developed under subsection (s1) of this section are as follows:

- (1) The pilot LME will have a virtual budget account for January 1, 2008, through June 30, 2008, based on one-half of the LME's cost of State psychiatric hospital use during the 2006-2007 fiscal year minus the LME's proposed reduction in hospital use.
- (2) Every bed day used by patients from that LME's catchment area will be debited against that LME's virtual account.
- (3) The cost of bed days will increase by the agreed upon amount for patients who are repeatedly admitted to the hospital.
- (4) The cost of bed days will increase by the agreed upon amount for patients who are admitted with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse.

- (5) The LME shall have one or more representatives on site at the State psychiatric hospital. The LME representatives shall be involved with patient admissions, development of treatment plans, supervision and delivery of treatment, and development and implementation of discharge plans.
- (6) The pilot LME shall have up to seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) to: (i) build community capacity through start-up operations or payment for local services; (ii) pay for the on-site representative at State psychiatric hospitals; and (iii) pay for patient bed days that are in excess of RFP's projected use.
- (7) As of June 30, 2008, any savings to the State realized from the LME's reduced hospital usage, plus any funds remaining in the LME's virtual hospital budget account, will be transferred to the LME to be used to purchase hospital use in the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Any funds remaining from the seven hundred fifty thousand dollar (\$750,000) allocation shall carry over to be used by the LME to pay for services to the mentally ill.

**SECTION 10.49.(s4)** Based on the experiences of the pilot programs authorized under subsections (s2) and (s3) of this section, the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (Division) shall work with the existing hospital use study group to develop a proposal for subsequent pilots to reduce hospital use and build community services. The Division may use up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) during the 2007-2008 fiscal year to develop the proposal. The Division shall submit an interim report on its progress to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (Oversight Committee) by October 15, 2007, and shall submit its final report to the Oversight Committee by February 1, 2008.

**SECTION 10.49.(s5)** The budgets for the State psychiatric hospitals shall not be reduced during the 2007-2008 fiscal year as a result of the pilot developed under subsection (s1) of this section. However, those budgets shall be adjusted in following years to reflect the previous year's use by the LMEs participating in the pilot program.

**SECTION 10.49.(t)** Notwithstanding G.S. 122C-112.1(a)(30) and G.S. 122C-181, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may close Dorothea Dix Hospital, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services may close John Umstead Hospital or any unit or section of that hospital, provided that all of the following conditions have been met prior to closure of each hospital or unit thereof:

- (1) The Secretary has notified the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and members of the General Assembly who represent catchment areas affected by the closure.
- (2) The Secretary has presented a plan for the closure of each hospital or unit thereof to the members of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (Oversight Committee) for their review, advice, and recommendations. The plan shall address specifically all of the following: (i) the capacity of any replacement facility and the catchment area to meet the needs of those consumers who require long-term secure services as well as acute care; (ii) an inventory of existing capacity in the communities within the catchment area for patients to access crisis services, appropriate housing, and other

necessary supports; (iii) how the State and the LMEs in the catchment area will attract and retain qualified private providers that will provide services to State-paid non-Medicaid eligible consumers; and (iv) the impact of the closure on remaining State facilities. In implementing the plan, the Secretary shall take into consideration the comments and recommendations of the Oversight Committee and other members of the General Assembly. Prior to presenting the plan to the Oversight Committee for its review, the Secretary shall provide a copy of the plan to members of the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services so that those members who are not members of the Oversight Committee may attend the Oversight Committee presentation to offer comments or recommendations.

- (3) The Central Regional Hospital is operational and patient transfers from Dorothea Dix Hospital and John Umstead Hospital have been completed.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not close a State facility if there are not adequate replacement services available prior to the date of closure.

**SECTION 10.49.(u)** In keeping with the United States Supreme Court decision in Olmstead v. L.C. & E.W. and State policy to provide appropriate services to clients in the least restrictive and most appropriate environment, the Department of Health and Human Services shall continue to implement a plan for the transition of patients from State psychiatric hospitals to the community or to other long-term care facilities, as appropriate. The goal is to develop mechanisms and identify resources needed to enable patients and their families to receive the necessary services and supports based on the following guiding principles:

- (1) Individuals shall be provided acute psychiatric care in non-State facilities when appropriate.
- (2) Individuals shall be provided acute psychiatric care in State facilities only when non-State facilities are unavailable.
- (3) Individuals shall receive evidence-based psychiatric services and care that are cost-efficient.
- (4) The State shall minimize cost shifting to other State and local facilities or institutions.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall conduct an analysis of the individual patient service needs and shall develop and implement an individual transition plan, as appropriate, for patients in each hospital. The State shall ensure that each individual transition plan, as appropriate, shall take into consideration the availability of appropriate alternative placements based on the needs of the patient and within resources available for the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services system. In developing each plan, the Department shall consult with the patient and the patient's family or other legal representative.

In accordance with the plan established in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, any nonrecurring savings in State appropriations that result from reductions in beds or services shall be placed in the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs. These funds shall be used to facilitate the transition of clients into appropriate community-based services and supports in accordance with G.S. 143C-9-2. Recurring savings realized through implementation of this section shall be retained by the Department of Health

and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, (i) for implementation of subsections (a) and (b) of this section and (ii) to support the recurring costs of additional community-based placements from Division facilities in accordance with <u>Olmstead v. L.C. & E.W.</u>

The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit reports on the status of implementation of this section to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and the Fiscal Research Division. These reports shall be submitted on December 1, 2007, and May 1, 2008.

### USE OF MENTAL HEALTH TRUST FUNDS.

**SECTION 10.49.(v)** Funds allocated to area programs to be spent on community-based programs that are remaining in the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs (Trust Fund) as of June 30, 2007, shall be dispersed to the area programs to be spent according to the purposes for which the funds were allocated. The Department shall limit the LME fund balance to ensure that LMEs fully utilize funds dispersed to the LME for the stated purposes.

**SECTION 10.49.(w)** G.S. 143C-9-2 reads as rewritten:

# "§ 143C-9-2. Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs.

(a) The Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs is established as an interest-bearing, nonreverting special trust fund in the Office of State Budget and Management. Moneys in the Trust Fund shall be held in trust and used solely to increase community-based services that meet the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services needs of the State. The Trust Fund shall be used to supplement and not to supplant or replace existing State and local funding available to meet the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services needs of the State.

The State Treasurer shall hold the Trust Fund separate and apart from all other moneys, funds, and accounts. The State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the Trust Fund and shall invest its assets in accordance with G.S. 147-69.2 and G.S. 147-69.3. Investment earnings credited to the assets of the Trust Fund shall become part of the Trust Fund. Any balance remaining in the Trust Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the Trust Fund for the next succeeding fiscal year.

Moneys in the Trust Fund shall be expended only in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and in accordance with limitations and directions enacted by the General Assembly.

- (b) Moneys in the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs shall be allocated to area programs to be used only to:
  - Provide start-up funds and operating support for programs and services that provide more appropriate and cost-effective community treatment alternatives for individuals currently residing in the State's mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services institutions.
  - (2) Facilitate the State's compliance with the United States Supreme Court decision in Olmstead v. L.C. and E.W.

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- (3) Facilitate reform of the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services system and expand and enhance treatment and prevention services in these program areas to remove waiting lists and provide appropriate and safe services for clients.
- (4) Provide bridge funding to maintain appropriate client services during transitional periods as a result of facility closings, including departmental restructuring of services.
- (5) Construct, repair, and renovate State mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services facilities.
- (c) Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-1-2, any nonrecurring savings in State appropriations realized from the closure of any State psychiatric hospitals that are in excess of the cost of operating and maintaining a new State psychiatric hospital shall not revert to the General Fund but shall be placed in the Trust Fund and shall be used for the purposes authorized in this section. Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-1-2, recurring savings realized from the closure of any State psychiatric hospitals shall not revert to the General Fund but shall be credited to the Department of Health and Human Services to be used only for the purposes of subsections (b)(1) (b)(2)-and (b)(3) of this section.
- (d) Beginning July 1, 2007, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services shall report annually to the Fiscal Research Division on the expenditures made during the preceding fiscal year from the Trust Fund. The report shall identify each expenditure by recipient and purpose and shall indicate the authority under subsection (b) of this section for the expenditure."

**SECTION 10.49.(x)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-9-2, as amended by this act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may use funds for the 2007-2008 fiscal year from the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs to support up to 66 new positions in the Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center, provided that these funds may be used only if the Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center opens before July 1, 2008.

### STRENGTHEN THE SERVICES NETWORK.

**SECTION 10.49.(y)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall designate four additional local management entities to receive all State allocations through single stream funding. If DHHS has not made the designations by July 1, 2007, the designations shall be enacted by the 2007 General Assembly. In addition to the four LMEs designated by the Department, the Piedmont, New River, Smoky Mountain, Guilford, and Mecklenburg LMEs shall continue to receive State allocations through single stream funding.

**SECTION 10.49.(z)** The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services shall study the effectiveness of the 1915(b) Medicaid waiver and of those LMEs operating under a waiver.

**SECTION 10.49.(aa)** No later than July 1, 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services shall commence the process for three additional local management entities to apply for a 1915(b) Medicaid waiver.

# FILLING SERVICE GAPS.

**SECTION 10.49.(bb)** Funds appropriated in this act for mental health services and supported employment shall be allocated to local management entities such that each local management entity receives a percentage of the total allocation that is equal to that local management entity's percentage of the State's total population that is

below the federal poverty level. Funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services in S.L. 2006-66 for mental health services, substance abuse services, and crisis services as part of the continuation budget shall continue to be allocated by the Department to local management entities such that each local management entity receives a percentage of the total allocation that is equal to that local management entity's percentage of the State's total population that is below the federal poverty level.

**SECTION 10.49.(cc)** G.S. 122C-147.1(c) shall apply to the State-funded service of developmental therapies.

**SECTION 10.49.(dd)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop and apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for additional home and community-based waivers for persons with developmental disabilities. In conjunction with the existing CAP MR/DD waiver, the new waivers will create a tiered system of services. Not later than March 1, 2008, the Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services on the status of the waivers required under this section.

**SECTION 10.49.(ee)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall study the option of tiering the rates for the Community Supports service according to the level of qualifications of the individuals delivering the services and the types of services being delivered by these individuals. The Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and the Fiscal Research Division by January 1, 2008, on the advantages and disadvantages of a tiered rate system versus the current rate system. The report shall also include a summary of other cost savings and quality control measures considered or implemented by the Department for this service.

### LME ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING

**SECTION 10.49.(ff)** The General Assembly finds that counties have budgeted almost one hundred twenty-one million dollars (\$121,000,000) to LMEs to pay for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services. However, the General Assembly lacks information regarding the specific services that are purchased with those county funds. The General Assembly also lacks data regarding the incomes of persons receiving mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services that are paid for by either State or county funds. This lack of data severely limits the General Assembly's ability to determine the distribution of services that are being paid for with public funds, whether persons who are eligible for Medicaid are being enrolled in that program, and whether expanding the State's Medicaid eligibility criteria would impact a significant number of mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services consumers. Therefore, LMEs shall report annually to the Division all expenditures from county funds by the LME for services, start-up expenses, and capital and operational expenditures, regardless of the source of the funds and regardless of whether the funds were earned on a payment for service or grant basis. This reporting shall include specific information regarding the expenditure of all funds provided to the LME by the county or counties contained in the LME's catchment area and the amount of expenditures for services provided by the multicounty LME to residents of each county in the multicounty LME's catchment area. To the extent possible, the information shall be submitted through the Integrated Payment and Reimbursement System. LMEs shall also gather income data for all individuals receiving services. Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-4, Budget Adjustments Authorized, the Department of Health and Human Services shall use funds available to the Department to fully fund the State's contribution for LME system administration.

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## DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER DOWNSIZING

SECTION 10.50.(a) In accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services' plan for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services system reform, the Department shall ensure that the downsizing of the State's Developmental Centers is based upon individual needs and the availability of community-based services with a targeted goal of four percent (4%) each year. The Department shall implement cost-containment and reduction strategies to ensure the corresponding financial and staff downsizing of each facility. The Department shall manage the client population of the Developmental Centers in order to ensure that placements for ICF-MR level of care shall be made to appropriate community-based settings. Admissions to a State-operated ICF-MR facility is permitted only as a last resort and only upon approval of the Department. The corresponding budgets for each of the Developmental Centers shall be reduced, and positions shall be eliminated as the census of each facility decreases in accordance with the Department's budget reduction formula. At no time shall mental retardation center positions be transferred to other units within a facility or assigned nondirect care activities such as outreach.

**SECTION 10.50.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall apply any savings in State appropriations in each year of the 2007-2009 biennium that result from reductions in beds or services as follows:

- (1) The Department shall place nonrecurring savings in the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs and use the savings to facilitate the transition of clients into appropriate community-based services and support in accordance with G.S. 143C-9-2;
- (2) The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall retain recurring savings realized through implementation of this section to support the recurring costs of additional community-based placements from Division facilities in accordance with Olmstead v. L.C. & E.W. In determining the savings in this section, savings shall include all savings realized from the downsizing of the Developmental Centers, including the savings in direct State appropriations in the budgets of the Developmental Centers; and
- (3) The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance, shall transfer any recurring Medicaid savings resulting from the downsizing of State-operated Developmental Centers from the ICF-MR line in Medicaid to support Medicaid services to assist in continued community service opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

**SECTION 10.50.(c)** Consistent with the requirements of this section, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall update the existing plan to ensure that there are sufficient developmental disability/mental retardation regional centers to correspond with service catchment areas. The plan shall address:

- (1) Methods of funding for community services necessitated by downsizing;
- (2) How many State-operated beds and non-State-operated beds are needed to serve the population; and
- (3) Alternative uses for facilities.

Not later than April 1, 2008, the Department shall provide an updated report on the development of the plan, and not later than April 1, 2009, shall report the final plan, including recommendations for legislative action, to the House of Representatives

Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

**SECTION 10.50.(d)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide an updated report on its progress in complying with this section to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division. The Department shall submit the progress report no later than January 15, 2008, and submit a final report no later than May 1, 2009.

# DHHS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN DELIVERING COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

**SECTION 10.51.(a)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall in cooperation with area mental health authorities and county programs, identify and eliminate administrative and fiscal barriers created by existing State and local policies and procedures in the delivery of community-based mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services provided through the area programs and county programs, including services provided through the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program for Children and services delivered to multiply diagnosed adults. The Department shall implement changes in policies and procedures in order to facilitate all of the following:

- (1) The provision of services to adults and children as defined in the Mental Health System Reform State Plan as priority or targeted populations.
- (2) The provision of services to children not deemed eligible for the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program for Children, but who would otherwise be in need of medically necessary treatment services to prevent out-of-home placement.
- (3) The provision of services in the community to adults remaining in and being placed in State institutions addressed in <u>Olmstead v. L.C.</u>

**SECTION 10.51.(b)** The Department shall rework the revised system of allocating State and federal funds to area mental health authorities and county programs to better reflect projected needs, including the impact of system reform efforts rather than historical allocation practices and spending patterns. The reworked allocation shall include the following:

- (1) For each LME, the current allocation by source and age/disability category, and the newly proposed allocation by source and age/disability category;
- (2) A clear formula for how the new allocations are derived with a detailed methodology for how the formula was created; and
- (3) A plan for moving to the new formula.

The Department shall submit the reworked language to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division not later than October 1, 2007, for review. The Department shall implement the system only after review and approval by the 2007 General Assembly, Regular Session 2008.

SECTION 10.51.(c) Area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services authorities and county programs shall use all funds

appropriated for and necessary to provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services to meet the need for these services. If excess funds are available after expending appropriated funds to fully meet service needs, one-half of these excess funds shall not revert to the General Fund but shall be transferred to the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding Needs, except that one-half of the funds appropriated for the Comprehensive Treatment Services Program for Children that are unexpended and unencumbered shall not revert to the General Fund but shall be carried forward and used only for services for children and adolescents.

The Department, in consultation with the area mental health authorities and county programs, shall report to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services on the progress in implementing these changes. The report shall be submitted on October 1, 2007, and February 1, 2008.

# SERVICES TO MULTIPLY DIAGNOSED ADULTS

**SECTION 10.52.(a)** In order to ensure that multiply diagnosed adults are appropriately served by the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services system, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, shall do the following with respect to services provided to these adults:

- (1) Implement the following guiding principles for the provision of services:
  - a. Service delivery system must be outcome-oriented and evaluation-based.
  - b. Services should be delivered as close as possible to the consumer's home.
  - c. Services selected should be those that are most efficient in terms of cost and effectiveness.
  - d. Services should not be provided solely for the convenience of the provider or the client.
  - e. Families and consumers should be involved in decision making throughout treatment planning and delivery.
- (2) Provide those treatment services that are medically necessary.
- (3) Implement utilization review of services provided.

**SECTION 10.52.(b)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall implement all of the following cost-reduction strategies:

- (1) Preauthorization for all services except emergency services.
- (2) Criteria for determining medical necessity.
- (3) Clinically appropriate services.

**SECTION 10.52.(c)** No State funds shall be used for the purchase of single-family or other residential dwellings to house multiply diagnosed adults.

**SECTION 10.52.(d)** The Department shall report on implementation of this section on May 1, 2008, and again on May 1, 2009, to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

 DEPARTMENTAL FLEXIBILITY IN SCHEDULING THE TRANSFER OF POSITIONS PERTAINING TO THE CLOSURE OF DOROTHEA DIX AND JOHN UMSTEAD HOSPITALS AND THE OPENING OF CENTRAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL

**SECTION 10.53.** The Department of Health and Human Services may schedule the transfer of positions relating to the closure of Dorothea Dix Hospital and John Umstead Hospital and the opening of Central Regional Hospital in accordance with appropriations and reductions in funding enacted in this act in a manner that is timely and with minimal disruption in services. The Department may not transfer more positions than are authorized in the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee Report on Health and Human Services, referenced in this act, for the closure of Dorothea Dix Hospital and John Umstead Hospital, the opening of Central Regional Hospital, the transfer of Whitaker School and R. J. Blackley ADATC to Central Regional Hospital, and the transfer of Dorothea Dix Hospital Forensic Unit beds to Broughton Hospital.

# FUNDS FOR HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL REGISTRY POSITIONS CONTINGENCY

**SECTION 10.54.** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Facility Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year for positions and related costs to expand the Health Care Personnel Registry are contingent upon enactment of House Bill 95, 2007 Regular Session, by the 2007 General Assembly.

# FUNDS FOR PUBLIC AVAILABILITY TO INSPECTION REPORTS

**SECTION 10.54A.** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Facility Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to establish and maintain public availability to inspection reports for adult care homes, nursing homes, home care agencies, adult day care programs, and adult day health care programs are contingent upon enactment of House Bill 248, 2007 Regular Session, by the 2007 General Assembly.

# **DHHS BLOCK GRANTS**

**SECTION 10.55.(a)** Appropriations from federal block grant funds are made for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, according to the following schedule:

# TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT

# **Local Program Expenditures**

D	1	<b>V1</b>	S1	01	n (	Эt		ŚΟ	C1	al	2	ie	r	V1	ıc	es	5
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01.	Work First Family Assistance (Cash Assistance)	\$95,807,234
02.	Work First County Block Grants	94,653,315
03.	Child Protective Services – Child Welfare	14 452 201

Workers for Local DSS 14,452,391

04. Work First – Boys and Girls Clubs

1,500,000

	General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007		
1	0.5	W 1 E' . AC C1 1C ' C			
1 2 3 4 5	05.	Work First – After-School Services for At-Risk Children	2,249,642		
	06.	Work First – After-School Programs for At-Risk Youth in Middle Schools	500,000		
6 7 8 9	07.	Work First – Connect, Inc.	550,000		
10 11 12	08.	Adoption Services – Special Children's Adoption Fund	3,000,000		
13	09.	Family Violence Prevention	2,200,000		
14 15	Divis	sion of Child Development			
16 17	10.	Subsidized Child Care Program	48,563,266		
18 19	DHHS A	Administration			
20 21	11.	Division of Social Services	762,626		
22 23	12.	Office of the Secretary	65,836		
24 25 26 27	13.	Office of the Secretary/DIRM – TANF Automation Projects	592,500		
28 29 30	14.	Office of the Secretary/DIRM – NC FAST Implementation	1,800,000		
31 32	Transfer	rs to Other Block Grants			
33 34	Divis	sion of Child Development			
35 36 37	15.	Transfer to the Child Care and Development Fund	81,292,880		
38 39	Divis	sion of Social Services			
40 41 42	16.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention – Support Our Students	2,749,642		
43 44 45 46	17.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Child Protective Services – Child Welfare Training in Counties	2,550,000		
47 48 49	18.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Maternity Homes	838,000		
50 51	19.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Teen			

General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
	Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives	2,500,000
20.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for County Departments of Social Services for Children's Services	4,500,000
21.	Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Foster Care Services	1,181,907
		\$362,309,239
SOCIAL	SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	
Local Pr	ogram Expenditures	
Divis	ions of Social Services and Aging and Adult Services	
01.	County Departments of Social Services (Transfer from TANF – \$4,500,000)	\$ 28,868,189
02.	State In-Home Services Fund	2,101,113
03.	State Adult Day Care Fund	2,155,301
04.	Child Protective Services/CPS Investigative Services-Child Medical Evaluation Program	238,321
05.	Foster Care Services (Transfer from TANF – \$1,181,907)	2,649,662
06.	Foster Care Maintenance Payments	2,636,587
07.	Child Protective Services-Child Welfare Training for Counties (Transfer from TANF)	2,550,000
08.	Maternity Homes (Transfer from TANF)	838,000
Divis	ion of Aging and Adult Services	
09.	Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG)	1,834,077
Divis	ion of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Sul Abuse Services	bstance
10.	Mental Health Services Program	422,003
11.	Developmental Disabilities Services Program	5,000,000
12.	Mental Health Services-Adult and	
	20. 21. TOTAL (TANF) SOCIAL Local Proprior Division 01. 02. 03. 04. 05. 06. 07. 08. Division 10. 11.	20. Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for County Departments of Social Services for Children's Services  21. Transfer to Social Services Block Grant for Foster Care Services  TOTAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) BLOCK GRANT  SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT  Local Program Expenditures  Divisions of Social Services and Aging and Adult Services  01. County Departments of Social Services (Transfer from TANF – \$4,500,000)  02. State In-Home Services Fund  03. State Adult Day Care Fund  04. Child Protective Services/CPS Investigative Services-Child Medical Evaluation Program  05. Foster Care Services (Transfer from TANF – \$1,181,907)  06. Foster Care Maintenance Payments  07. Child Protective Services-Child Welfare Training for Counties (Transfer from TANF)  08. Maternity Homes (Transfer from TANF)  Division of Aging and Adult Services  09. Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG)  Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Sul Abuse Services  10. Mental Health Services Program  11. Developmental Disabilities Services Program

	General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
1 2 3 4 5		Child/Developmental Disabilities Program/ Substance Abuse Services-Adult	3,234,601
3 4 5	Divis	sion of Child Development	
6	13.	Subsidized Child Care Program	3,195,000
7 8	Divis	sion of Vocational Rehabilitation	
9 10 11 12	14.	Vocational Rehabilitation Services – Easter Seal Society/UCP	188,263
13	Offic	ee of the Secretary – Office of Economic Opportunity	
14 15	15.	Elderly Supplemental Grant Program	41,302
16 17	Divis	sion of Public Health	
18 19 20	16.	Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives (Transfer from TANF)	2,500,000
21 22	DHHS P	Program Expenditures	
23 24	Divis	sion of Aging and Adult Services	
25 26	17.	UNC-CARES Training Contract	247,920
27 28	Divis	sion of Services for the Blind	
29 30	18.	Independent Living Program	3,480,133
31 32	Divis	sion of Facility Services	
33 34	19.	Adult Care Licensure Program	411,897
35 36	20.	Mental Health Licensure and Certification Program	205,668
37 38	DHHS A	Administration	
39 40	21.	Division of Aging and Adult Services	658,036
41 42	22.	Division of Social Services	869,058
43 44	23.	Office of the Secretary/Controller's Office	126,155
45 46	24.	Office of the Secretary/DIRM	82,009
47 48	25.	Division of Child Development	15,000
49 50 51	26.	Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services	28,860

Genera	l Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
27.	Division of Facility Services	159,218
	•	100,210
28.	Office of the Secretary-NC Inter-Agency Council For Coordinating Homeless Programs	250,000
29.	Office of the Secretary-Housing Coalition	100,000
30.	Office of the Secretary	46,819
Γransfe	rs to Other State Agencies	
Dep	artment of Administration	
31.	NC Commission of Indian Affairs In-Home Services for the Elderly	203,198
Dep	artment of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	
32.	Support Our Students (Transfer from TANF)	2,749,642
Γransfe	rs to Other Block Grants	
Divi	sion of Public Health	
33.	Transfer to Preventive Health Services Block Grant for HIV/STD Prevention and Community Planning	145,819
ГОТАІ	SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	\$ 68,232,489
LOW-I	NCOME ENERGY BLOCK GRANT	
Local P	rogram Expenditures	
Divi	sion of Social Services	
01.	Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	\$ 17,315,919
02.	Crisis Intervention Program (CIP)	12,904,706
Offi	ce of the Secretary – Office of Economic Opportunity	
03.	Weatherization Program	5,578,702
04.	Heating Air Repair & Replacement Program (HARRP)	2,602,008
Local A	dministration	
Divi	sion of Social Services	

	General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
1	05.	County DSS Administration	2,215,016
3	Offic	e of the Secretary – Office of Economic Opportunity	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	06.	Local Residential Energy Efficiency Service Providers – Weatherization	262,837
8 9 10	07.	Local Residential Energy Efficiency Service Providers – HARRP	122,591
10 11 12	DHHS A	Administration	
12 13 14	08.	Division of Social Services	215,000
15 16 17	09.	Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services	7,389
18	10.	Office of the Secretary/DIRM	245,395
19 20	11.	Office of the Secretary/Controller's Office	11,211
21 22 23	12.	Office of the Secretary/Office of Economic Opportunity – Weatherization	262,837
24 25 26	13.	Office of the Secretary/Office of Economic Opportunity – HARRP	122,591
27 28 29	Transfer	s to Other State Agencies	
30 31 32	14.	Department of Administration – N.C. State Commission of Indian Affairs	59,740
33	TOTAL	LOW-INCOME ENERGY BLOCK GRANT	\$ 41,925,942
34 35	CHILD (	CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND BLOCK GRANT	
36 37	Local Pr	ogram Expenditures	
38 39	Divis	sion of Child Development	
40 41	01.	Subsidized Child Care Services	\$163,231,913
42 43 44	02.	Subsidized Child Care Services (TANF to CCDF)	81,292,880
45 46	DHHS P	Program Expenditures	
47 48	Divis	sion of Child Development	
49 50 51	03.	Quality and Availability Initiatives	31,463,419

	General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007				
1	Local A	dministrations					
2 3	Divis	sion of Child Development					
4 5 6	04.	Administrative Expenses (Nondirect Subsidy Services Support)	1,849,000				
7 8	DHHS A	Administration					
9 10	05.	DCD Administrative Expenses	6,028,354				
11 12 13		CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANT	\$283,916,162				
14 15	MENTA	AL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT					
16 17	Local Pi	rogram Expenditures					
18 19	01.	Mental Health Services – Adult	\$ 5,654,932				
20 21	02.	Mental Health Services – Child	3,921,991				
22 23 24 25	03.	Comprehensive Treatment Service Program	1,500,000				
26 27	Local A	dministration					
28	04.	Division of Mental Health	100,000				
29 30	TOTAL	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	\$ 11,176,923				
31 32 33	SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BLOCK GRANT						
34 35	Local Pr	rogram Expenditures					
36 37	01.	Substance Abuse Services – Adult	\$ 20,287,390				
38 39 40	02.	Substance Abuse Treatment Alternative for Women	8,069,524				
41 42	03.	Substance Abuse – HIV and IV Drug	4,816,378				
43 44	04.	Substance Abuse Prevention – Child	5,835,701				
45 46	05.	Substance Abuse Services – Child	4,940,500				
47 48 49 50	06.	Substance Abuse Strengthening Families – Prevention	851,156				
51	Divis	sion of Public Health					
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	General	Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
1	07	Diele De desetie a Davis see	<b>622.000</b>
3	07.	Risk Reduction Projects	633,980
1 2 3 4 5	08.	Aid-to-Counties	209,576
6 7	09.	Maternal Health	37,779
8 9	DHHS A	Administration	
10	10.	Division of Mental Health	500,000
11 12 13		SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION REATMENT BLOCK GRANT	\$ 46,181,984
14 15	MATER	NAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT	
16 17	Local Pro	ogram Expenditures	
18 19	Divis	ion of Public Health	
20 21	01.	Children's Health Services	6,657,275
22 23	02.	Family Planning	4,078,338
24 25 26	03.	Maternal Health	3,441,129
27 28	04.	Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives	85,710
29	05.	Oral Health	35,951
30 31	DHHS P	rogram Expenditures	
32 33	Divis	ion of Public Health	
34 35	06.	Children's Health Services	2,444,445
36 37	07.	Maternal Health	106,927
38 39	08.	State Center for Health Statistics	33,134
40 41	09.	Local Technical Assistance & Training	17,318
42 43	10.	Injury and Violence Prevention	142,850
44 45	11.	Office of Minority Health	37,068
46 47	12.	Immunization Program – Vaccine Distribution	310,667
48 49	DHHS A	Administration	
50 51	13.	Division of Public Health Administration	600,586
	Page 128		House Bill 1473-Fifth Edition

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44 **GENERAL PROVISIONS** 45

**SECTION 10.55.(b)** Information to Be Included in Block Grant Plans. – The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a separate plan for each Block Grant received and administered by the Department, and each plan shall include the following:

A delineation of the proposed allocations by program or activity, (1) including State and federal match requirements.

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- (2) A delineation of the proposed State and local administrative expenditures.
- (3) An identification of all new positions to be established through the Block Grant, including permanent, temporary, and time-limited positions.
- (4) A comparison of the proposed allocations by program or activity with two prior years' program and activity budgets and two prior years' actual program or activity expenditures.
- A projection of current year expenditures by program or activity. (5)
- A projection of federal Block Grant funds available, including unspent (6) federal funds from the current and prior fiscal years.

**SECTION 10.55.(c)** Changes in Federal Fund Availability. – If the Congress of the United States increases the federal fund availability for any of the Block Grants administered by the Department of Health and Human Services from the amounts appropriated in this section, the Department shall allocate the increase proportionally across the program and activity appropriations identified for that Block Grant in this section. In allocating an increase in federal fund availability, the Department shall not propose funding for new programs or activities not appropriated in this section or increase State administrative expenditures.

If the Congress of the United States decreases the federal fund availability for any of the Block Grants administered by the Department of Health and Human Services from the amounts appropriated in this section, the Department shall reduce State administration by at least the percentage of the reduction in federal funds. After determining the State administration, the remaining reductions shall be allocated proportionately across the program and activity appropriations identified for that Block Grant in this section. In allocating a decrease in federal fund availability, the Department shall not eliminate the funding for a program or activity appropriated in this section unless it is related to the State administration.

Prior to allocating the change in federal fund availability, the proposed allocation must be approved by the Office of State Budget and Management. If the Department adjusts the allocation of any Block Grant due to changes in federal fund availability, then a report shall be made to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

**SECTION 10.55.(d)** All changes to the budgeted allocations to the Block Grants administered by the Department of Health and Human Services that are not specifically addressed in this section shall be approved by the Office of State Budget and Management, and a report shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations for review prior to implementing the changes. All changes to the budgeted allocations to the Block Grant shall be reported immediately to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division. This subsection does not apply to Block Grant changes caused by legislative salary increases and benefit adjustments.

# TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES BLOCK GRANT (TANF)

**SECTION 10.55.(e)** The sum of seven hundred sixty-two thousand six hundred twenty-six dollars (\$762,626) appropriated in this section in the TANF Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, for

the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to support administration of TANF-funded programs.

**SECTION 10.55.(f)** The sum of two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000) appropriated under this section in the TANF Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to provide domestic violence services to Work First recipients. These funds shall be used to provide domestic violence counseling, support, and other direct services to clients. These funds shall not be used to establish new domestic violence shelters or to facilitate lobbying efforts. The Division of Social Services may use up to seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) in TANF funds to support one administrative position within the Division of Social Services to implement this subsection.

Each county department of social services and the local domestic violence shelter program serving the county shall jointly develop a plan for utilizing these funds. The plan shall include the services to be provided and the manner in which the services shall be delivered. The county plan shall be signed by the county social services director or the director's designee and the domestic violence program director or the director's designee and submitted to the Division of Social Services by December 1, 2007. The Division of Social Services, in consultation with the Council for Women, shall review the county plans and shall provide consultation and technical assistance to the departments of social services and local domestic violence shelter programs, if needed.

The Division of Social Services shall allocate these funds to county departments of social services according to the following formula: (i) each county shall receive a base allocation of five thousand dollars (\$5,000); and (ii) each county shall receive an allocation of the remaining funds based on the county's proportion of the statewide total of the Work First caseload as of July 1, 2007, and the county's proportion of the statewide total of the individuals receiving domestic violence services from programs funded by the Council for Women as of July 1, 2007. The Division of Social Services may reallocate unspent funds to counties that submit a written request for additional funds.

**SECTION 10.55.(g)** The sum of two million two hundred forty-nine thousand six hundred forty-two dollars (\$2,249,642) appropriated in this section in the TANF Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to expand after-school programs and services for at-risk children. The Department shall develop and implement a grant program to award grants to community-based programs that demonstrate the ability to reach children at risk of teen pregnancy, school dropout, and gang participation. The Department shall award grants to community-based organizations that demonstrate the ability to develop and implement linkages with local departments of social services, area mental health programs, schools, and other human services programs in order to provide support services and assistance to the child and family. These funds may be used to fund one position within the Division of Social Services to coordinate at-risk after-school programs and shall not be used for other State administration.

**SECTION 10.55.(h)** The sum of fourteen million four hundred fifty-two thousand three hundred ninety-one dollars (\$14,452,391) appropriated in this section to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, in the TANF Block Grant for the 2007-2008 fiscal year for child welfare improvements, shall be allocated to the county departments of social services for hiring or contracting staff to investigate and provide services in Child Protective Services cases; to provide foster care and support services; to recruit, train, license, and support prospective foster and

adoptive families; and to provide interstate and postadoption services for eligible families.

**SECTION 10.55.(i)** The sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) appropriated in this section in the TANF Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Special Children Adoption Fund, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used in accordance with Section 10.31 of this act. The Division of Social Services, in consultation with the North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services and representatives of licensed private adoption agencies, shall develop guidelines for the awarding of funds to licensed public and private adoption agencies upon the adoption of children described in G.S. 108A-50 and in foster care. Payments received from the Special Children Adoption Fund by participating agencies shall be used exclusively to enhance the adoption services program. No local match shall be required as a condition for receipt of these funds.

**SECTION 10.55.(j)** The sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000) in this section appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services in the TANF Block Grant for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to implement N.C. FAST (North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology). The N.C. FAST Program involves the entire automation initiative through which families access services and local departments of social services deliver benefits, supervised by the Department of Health and Human Services, Divisions of Social Services, Aging and Adult Services, Medical Assistance, and Child Development. The statewide automated initiative shall be implemented in compliance with federal regulations in order to ensure federal financial participation in the project. The Department of Health and Human Services shall report on its compliance with this subsection to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than January 1, 2008.

**SECTION 10.55.(k)** The sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) appropriated in this section to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, in the TANF Block Grant for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to expand after-school programs for at-risk children attending middle school. The Department shall develop and implement a grant program to award funds to community-based programs demonstrating the capacity to reach children at risk of teen pregnancy, school dropout, and gang participation. These funds shall not be used for training or administration at the State level. All funds shall be distributed to community-based programs, focusing on those communities where similar programs do not exist in middle schools.

**SECTION 10.55.(I)** In implementing the TANF Block Grant, the Department of Health and Human Services shall review policies, programs, and initiatives to ensure that they support men in their role as fathers and strengthen fathers' involvement in their children's lives. The Department shall encourage county departments of social services to ensure their Work First programs emphasize responsible fatherhood and increased participation by noncustodial fathers.

**SECTION 10.55.(m)** The sum of five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000) appropriated in this section to the Department of Health and Human Services in the TANF Block Grant for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be transferred to Connect, Inc. Connect, Inc., shall report on the number of people served and the services received as a result of the receipt of funds. The report shall contain expenditure data, including the amount of funds used for administration and direct training. The report shall also include the number of people who have been employed as a direct result of services provided by Connect, Inc., including the length of employment in the

new position. The Department of Health and Human Services shall evaluate the program and ensure that services provided are not duplicative of local employment security commissions in the nine counties served by Connect, Inc. The evaluation report shall be submitted to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than May 1, 2008.

**SECTION 10.55.(n)** The sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) appropriated in this section to the Department of Health and Human Services in the TANF Block Grant for Boys and Girls Clubs for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to make grants for approved programs. The Department of Health and Human Services, in accordance with federal regulations for the use of TANF Block Grant funds, shall administer a grant program to award funds to the Boys and Girls Clubs across the State in order to implement programs that improve the motivation, performance, and self-esteem of youths and to implement other initiatives that would be expected to reduce gang participation, school dropout, and teen pregnancy rates. The Department shall encourage and facilitate collaboration between the Boys and Girls Clubs and Support Our Students, Communities in Schools, and similar programs to submit joint applications for the funds if appropriate.

**SECTION 10.55.(0)** The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, shall continue implementing county demonstration grants that began in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. The county demonstration grants may be awarded for up to three years with all projects ending no later than the end of fiscal year 2009-2010. The purpose of the county demonstration grants is to identify best practices that can be used by counties to improve the work participation rates. The Division of Social Services is authorized to establish two time-limited positions to manage the grant award process and monitor the demonstration projects through fiscal year 2009-2010.

Funding provided under the county demonstration grants shall not be used to supplant local funds, and counties shall be required to maintain the current level of effort and funding for the Work First program.

The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, shall report on the status of county demonstration grants implemented pursuant to this subsection to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division no later than February 1, 2008.

### SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

**SECTION 10.55.(p)** Social Services Block Grant funds appropriated to the North Carolina Inter-Agency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs and the North Carolina Housing Coalition are exempt from the provisions of 10A NCAC 71R .0201(3).

**SECTION 10.55.(q)** The sum of two million seven hundred forty-nine thousand six hundred forty-two dollars (\$2,749,642) appropriated in this section in the Social Services Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services and transferred to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to support the existing Support Our Students Program, including gang prevention, and to expand the Program statewide, focusing on low-income communities in unserved areas. These funds shall not be used for administration of the Program.

**SECTION 10.55.(r)** The sum of two million five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$2,550,000) appropriated in this section in the Social Services Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, for the

2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to support various child welfare training projects as follows:

- (1) Provide a regional training center in southeastern North Carolina.
- (2) Support the Master's Degree in Social Work/Baccalaureate Degree in Social Work Collaborative.
- (3) Provide training for residential child caring facilities.
- (4) Provide for various other child welfare training initiatives.

**SECTION 10.55.(s)** The sum of eight hundred thirty-eight thousand dollars (\$838,000) appropriated in this section in the Social Services Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to purchase services at maternity homes throughout the State.

**SECTION 10.55.(t)** The sum of two million six hundred forty-nine thousand six hundred sixty-two dollars (\$2,649,662) appropriated in this section in the Social Services Block Grant for child caring agencies for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be allocated to the State Private Child Caring Agencies Fund.

**SECTION 10.55.(u)** The Department of Health and Human Services is authorized, subject to the approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, to transfer Social Services Block Grant funding allocated for departmental administration between divisions that have received administrative allocations from the Social Services Block Grant.

### LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**SECTION 10.55.(v)** Additional emergency contingency funds received may be allocated for Energy Assistance Payments or Crisis Intervention Payments without prior consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations. Additional funds received shall be reported to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division upon notification of the award. The Department of Health and Human Services shall not allocate funds for any activities, including increasing administration, other than assistance payments, without prior consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

# CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND BLOCK GRANT

**SECTION 10.55.(w)** The sum of no more than four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) appropriated in this section to the Department of Health and Human Services in the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant for the 2007-2008 fiscal year may be used for the operations of the Medical Child Care Pilot.

**SECTION 10.55.(x)** Payment for subsidized child care services provided with federal TANF funds shall comply with all regulations and policies issued by the Division of Child Development for the subsidized child care program.

**SECTION 10.55.(y)** If funds appropriated through the Child Care and Development Fund Block Grant for any program cannot be obligated or spent in that program within the obligation or liquidation periods allowed by the federal grants, the Department may move funds to child care subsidies, unless otherwise prohibited by federal requirements of the grant, in order to use the federal funds fully.

#### MENTAL HEALTH BLOCK GRANT

**SECTION 10.55.(z)** The sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) appropriated in this section in the Mental Health Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of four hundred twenty-two thousand three dollars (\$422,003) appropriated in this

section in the Social Services Block Grant to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to continue a Comprehensive Treatment Services Program for Children in accordance with Section 10.10 of this act.

**SECTION 10.55.(aa)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall contract with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for the purpose of providing psychology student stipends in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) of this contract shall be paid from the Mental Health Block Grant.

### SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BLOCK GRANT

**SECTION 10.55.(bb)** Of the funds appropriated for risk reduction projects, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) shall be used to fund a pilot to do basic education resource and referral for individuals with HIV/AIDS and substance abuse disorder. If substance abuse prevention and treatment carry-forward funds are available, the Department of Health and Human Services shall budget the first two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) of these funds to adult substance abusers.

### MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT

**SECTION 10.55.(cc)** If federal funds are received under the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant for abstinence education, pursuant to section 912 of Public Law 104-193 (42 U.S.C. § 710), for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, then those funds shall be transferred to the State Board of Education to be administered by the Department of Public Instruction. The Department of Public Instruction shall use the funds to establish an Abstinence Until Marriage Education Program and shall delegate to one or more persons the responsibility of implementing the program and G.S. 115C-81(e1)(4). The Department of Public Instruction shall carefully and strictly follow federal guidelines in implementing and administering the abstinence education grant funds.

 **SECTION 10.55.(dd)** The Department of Health and Human Services shall ensure that there will be follow-up testing in the Newborn Screening Program.

### PART XI. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

### SALE OF TIMBER

**SECTION 11.1.** G.S. 143-64.05(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The State agency for surplus property may assess and collect a service charge for the acquisition, receipt, warehousing, distribution, or transfer of any State surplus property and for the transfer or sale of recyclable material. The service charge authorized by this subsection does not apply to the transfer or sale of timber on land owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Commission or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services."

# STUDY EQUINE INDUSTRY IN NORTH CAROLINA

**SECTION 11.2.(a)** The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall conduct a study of the equine industry in North Carolina. In conducting this study, the Department shall assess the numbers, composition, and value of the equine industry in North Carolina, analyze the direct and indirect impact of the industry on the State's economy, and develop a comprehensive plan to maximize the economic opportunities presented by the industry.

- **SECTION 11.2.(b)** The assessment of the equine industry under subsection (a) of this section shall provide data on both a statewide and countywide basis. The assessment shall include all of the following:
  - (1) A census of equines in the State, including numbers, breeds, and disciplines.
  - (2) The value of equines in the State.
  - (3) The number of equine owners.
  - (4) The number of equine operations.
  - (5) The size of equine operations.
  - (6) The total acreage devoted to equine operations.
  - (7) The value of equine-related assets.
    - (8) The number of equines and owners participating in various activities within the State.
    - (9) An analysis of the economic impact of the existing exhibition facilities, including the Hunt Horse Complex, the Senator Bob Martin Horse Complex, the WNC Agricultural Center, and the Carolina Horse Park.
    - (10) An analysis of the programs, contributions, and industry support provided by the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine and other equine programs, at both private and public education institutions, including the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University, Martin Community College, and St. Andrews College.
    - (11) An analysis of the economic impact of breeding, training, and other horse operations.
    - (12) An analysis of the economic impact of services provided to the equine industry, including farrier, veterinary, design and planning, farm management and consulting, show management, and other services related to equines and equine operations.
    - (13) An analysis of the economic impact, including manufacturing, agricultural production and employment, and wholesale and retail sales, of the purchase of equines, feed and grain, hay, tack and other horse equipment, riding clothes, insurance, vehicles and trailers, farm and pasture inputs, capital improvements such as barns, sheds, and fencing, and real estate, including planned equestrian communities.
    - (14) An analysis of the economic impact of other recreational uses of equines, including trail riding, camping with horses, therapeutic riding programs, other recreational activities, and equine-related agritourism.
    - (15) An analysis of the impact of the equine industry on State and local governments, including the generation of tax revenues.

**SECTION 11.2.(c)** The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in developing a plan to maximize the economic impact of the equine industry under subsection (a) of this section, shall do all of the following:

- (1) Evaluate existing equine-related facilities, programs, and services in the State and make recommendations for enhancing those facilities, programs, and services so as to maximize their economic impact on the State.
- (2) Identify opportunities for the growth of the equine industry, including the production of feed crops, improved pasture, and high-quality horse hays, attracting industry engaged in the production of horse-related products, equipment, and pharmaceuticals, the addition of exhibition

- and show facilities, including the development of a world-class equestrian park, and other horse-related programs, activities, and facilities, and evaluate the potential economic contribution to the State's economy of each of these potential undertakings.
- (3) Evaluate the need to create an equine industry board tasked with the market development, education, publicity, research, and promotion of the North Carolina equine industry and other such measures it deems appropriate to promote the objectives, findings, and recommendations of the equine industry survey and analysis.
- (4) Evaluate the laws, rules, and policies that impact equine owners and persons engaged in equine activities, including land-use policies, preservation of trails, use of State recreational facilities, and tax credits and make recommendations directed toward making North Carolina more attractive to equine operations and activities.

**SECTION 11.2.(d)** The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may conduct the assessment or develop the plan under subsection (a) of this section or may contract with another agency of State government, any of the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, or a private consultant as it deems necessary and advisable. Prior to developing the plan under subsection (a) of this section, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall consult with equine industry stakeholders, including the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc. No later than January 15, 2009, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall complete its work and shall file a report containing the results of the assessment of the equine industry and its plan under subsection (a) of this section with the Chairs of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees.

# TOBACCO TRUST ACCOUNT INTERCEPT TO SUPPORT CERTAIN GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

**SECTION 11.3.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-9-3, of the funds credited to the Tobacco Trust Account from the Master Settlement Agreement pursuant to Section 6(2) of S.L. 1999-2 during the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be transferred from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Budget Code 23703 (Tobacco Trust Account) to the State Controller to be deposited in Non-tax Budget Code 19978 (Intra State Transfers) to support General Fund appropriations by the 2007 General Assembly to provide funding as follows:

- (1) Eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) to the North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund established in G.S. 106-744.
- (2) One million dollars (\$1,000,000) to the One North Carolina Fund established in G.S. 143B-437.71.
- (3) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the Bernard Allen Memorial Emergency Drinking Water Fund established in G.S. 87-98.
- (4) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the 'Got to Be NC' agriculture marketing initiative in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

# PART XII. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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COMMERCIAL **AND** NONCOMMERCIAL LEAKING PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE **COSTS** 

**SECTION 12.1.(a)** G.S. 143-215.94B is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

The Commercial Fund may be used to support the administrative functions of the program for underground storage tanks under this Part and Part 2B of this Article up to the amounts allowed by law, which amounts may be changed from time to time. In the case of a legislated increase or decrease in salaries and benefits, the administrative allowance existing at the time of the increase or decrease shall be correspondingly increased or decreased an amount equal to the legislated increase or decrease in salaries and benefits."

**SECTION 12.1.(b)** G.S. 143-215.94D is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

The Noncommercial Fund may be used to support the administrative functions of the program for underground storage tanks under this Part and Part 2B of this Article up to the amounts allowed by law, which amounts may be changed from time to time. In the case of a legislated increase or decrease in salaries and benefits, the administrative allowance existing at the time of the increase or decrease shall be correspondingly increased or decreased an amount equal to the legislated increase or decrease in salaries and benefits."

# BERNARD ALLEN MEMORIAL EMERGENCY DRINKING WATER FUND **SECTION 12.2.(a)** G.S. 87-98 reads as rewritten:

"§ 87-98. Bernard Allen Memorial Emergency Drinking Water Fund.

- The Bernard Allen Memorial Emergency Drinking Water Fund is established within under the control and direction of the Department. The Fund shall be a nonreverting, interest-bearing fund consisting of monies appropriated by the General Assembly or made available to the Fund from any other source and investment interest credited to the Fund.
- The Fund may be used to pay for notification, to the extent practicable, of (b) persons aged 18 and older who reside in any dwelling unit, and the senior official in charge of any business, at which drinking water is supplied from a private drinking water well or improved spring that is located within 1,500 feet of, and at risk from, known groundwater contamination. The senior official in charge of the business shall take reasonable measures to notify all employees of the business of the groundwater contamination, including posting a notice of the contamination in a form and at a location that is readily accessible to the employees of the business. The funds Fund may also be used to cover-pay the costs of testing by the Department of private drinking water wells and improved springs for suspected contamination up to once every three years upon request by a person who uses the well for contamination and for the temporary or permanent provision of alternative drinking water supplies to persons whose drinking water well or improved spring is contaminated.
- The Department shall disburse monies from the Fund based on financial need and on the risk to public health posed by groundwater contamination and shall give priority to the provision of services under this section to instances when an alternative source of funds is not available. The funds-Fund shall not be used for remediation of groundwater contamination. Nothing in this section expands, contracts, or modifies the obligation of responsible parties under Article 9 or 10 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes, this Article, or Article 21A of this Chapter to assess contamination, identify receptors, or remediate groundwater or soil contamination. The Fund shall not be used

to provide alternative water supply to households with incomes greater than two hundred percent (200%) of the current poverty level. The Fund shall not be used to provide alternative drinking water supplies unless the concentration of one or more contaminants in the private drinking water well or improved spring exceeds the Maximum Contaminant Level, or the federal drinking water action level as defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 141.1 through § 141.571 (1 July 2006) and 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 143.3 (1 July 2006). The Fund shall not be used to provide temporary water supplies in any calendar quarter until all needs for permanent replacement water supplies that have been identified in that calendar quarter have been met through hookups to public water supplies, repair, or replacement of contaminated wells. In disbursing monies from the Fund, preference shall be given to providing permanent replacement water supplies by connection to public water supplies and repair or replacement of contaminated wells over the provision of temporary water supplies.

- (d) The Department shall establish criteria by which the Department is to evaluate applications and disburse <u>funds</u> from this Fund and may adopt any rules necessary to implement this section.
- (e) The Department, in consultation with the Commission for Health Services and local health departments, shall report no later than 1 October of each year to the Environmental Review Commission, the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and Economic Resources, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly on the implementation of this section. The report shall include the purpose and amount of all expenditures from the Fund during the prior fiscal year, a discussion of the benefits and deficiencies realized as a result of the section, and may also include recommendations for any legislative action."

**SECTION 12.2.(b)** The first report required by G.S. 87-98(e), as enacted by subsection (a) of this section, shall be submitted on or before 1 October 2008.

# RECEIPTS CREDITED TO NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUMS FUND

**SECTION 12.3.** G.S. 143B-289.44 reads as rewritten:

# "§ 143B-289.44. North Carolina Aquariums; fees; fund.

- (a) Fees. The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources may adopt a schedule of uniform entrance fees for the North Carolina Aquariums.
- (b) Fund. The North Carolina Aquariums Fund is hereby created as a special and nonreverting fund. The North Carolina Aquariums Fund shall be used for repair, renovation, expansion, maintenance, educational exhibit construction, and operational expenses at existing aquariums, to pay the debt service and lease payments related to the financing of expansions of aquariums, including other relevant satellite areas, and to match private funds that are raised for these purposes.
- (c) Disposition of Fees. Fees and Other Receipts. All entrance fee receipts and all receipts received by any aquarium for a special event or activity held at the aquarium shall be credited to the North Carolina Aquariums Fund.
- (d) Report. The Division of North Carolina Aquariums shall submit to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Natural and Economic Resources, and the Fiscal Research Division by September 30 of each year a report on the North Carolina Aquariums Fund that shall include the source and amounts of all funds credited to the Fund and the purpose and amount of all expenditures from the Fund during the prior fiscal year."

# NEW LEASE PURCHASE/INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS FOR FORESTRY EQUIPMENT

SECTION 12.4. Prior to the Division of Forest Resources of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources entering into either a new lease purchase contract for the purchase of forestry equipment or a new installment contract for the purchase of forestry equipment, the Division of Forest Resources shall submit a detailed list of the forestry equipment to be purchased under the contract to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division. Prior to the Department of Administration entering into either a new lease purchase contract for the purchase of forestry equipment or a new installment contract for the purchase of forestry equipment on behalf of the Division of Forest Resources, the Department of Administration shall submit a detailed list of the forestry equipment to be purchased under the contract to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division. If a list is modified after it is submitted under this section, the modified list shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division prior to entering into the contract.

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# **GRASSROOTS SCIENCE PROGRAM**

**SECTION 12.5.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the Grassroots Science Program, the sum of three million one hundred ninety-seven thousand seven hundred sixty-three dollars (\$3,197,763) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year is allocated as grants-in-aid for each fiscal year as follows:

23		2007-2008
24		
25	Aurora Fossil Museum	\$55,865
26	Cape Fear Museum	\$137,493
27	Carolina Raptor Center	\$98,472
28	Catawba Science Center	\$157,908
29	Children's Museum of Iredell County	\$60,695
30	Colburn Gem and Mineral Museum, Inc.	\$72,992
31	Discovery Place	\$705,437
32	Eastern NC Regional Science Center	\$50,000
33	Fascinate-U	\$79,202
34	Granville County Museum Commission,	
35	Inc.–Harris Gallery	\$55,008
36	Greensboro Children's Museum	\$121,824
37	The Health Adventure Museum of Pack	
38	Place Education, Arts and	
39	Science Center, Inc.	\$132,950
40	Highlands Nature Center	\$67,843
41	Imagination Station	\$84,561
42	Kidsenses	\$82,000
43	Museum of Coastal Carolina	\$72,063
44	Natural Science Center of Greensboro	\$163,921
45	North Carolina Museum of Life	
46	and Science	\$326,615
47	Port Discover	\$50,000
48	Rocky Mount Children's Museum	\$97,694
49	Schiele Museum of Natural History	\$201,274
50	Sci Works Science Center and	
51	Environmental Park of Forsyth County	\$133,161

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The chief financial Officer of each county or municipal government or each friends association that provides indirect or allocable costs that are not directly charged to a museum under this section but that benefit the museum shall submit in the form of a detailed statement enumerating each cost by type and amount that is verified by the financial officer responsible for the completion of the documentation and that includes the name, address, title, and telephone number of the person making the assertion that the county, municipality, or association provides indirect or allocable costs to the museum.

**SECTION 12.5.(d)** As used in subsection (c) of this section, "friends association" means a nonprofit corporation established for the purpose of supporting and assisting a museum that receives funding under this section.

Session 2007

\$97,351

\$93,434

\$3,197,763

### BEAVER DAMAGE CONTROL PROGRAM FUNDS

**SECTION 12.6.** Of the funds available to the Wildlife Resources Commission, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be used to provide the State share necessary to support the beaver damage control program established in G.S. 113-291.10, provided the sum of at least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in federal funds is available each fiscal year of the biennium to provide the federal share.

### CAP WILDLIFE RESOURCES FUND ANNUAL SALES TAX RECEIPTS

**SECTION 12.7.** G.S. 105-164.44B reads as rewritten:

# "§ 105-164.44B. Transfer to Wildlife Resources Fund of taxes on hunting and fishing supplies and equipment.

Each fiscal year, the Secretary of Revenue shall transfer at the end of each quarter from the State sales and use tax net collections received by the Department of Revenue under Article 5 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes to the State Treasurer for the Wildlife Resources Fund, one fourth of the amount transferred the preceding fiscal year plus or minus the percentage of that amount by which the total collection of State sales and use taxes increased or decreased during the preceding fiscal year, not to exceed twenty-two million dollars (\$22,000,000)."

# RETAIN EARNINGS OF PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND

**SECTION 12.8.** G.S. 113-44.15(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Fund Created. – There is established a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund in the State Treasurer's Office. The Trust Fund shall be a nonreverting special revenue fund consisting of gifts and grants to the Trust Fund, monies credited to the Trust Fund pursuant to G.S. 105-228.30(b), and other monies appropriated to the Trust Fund by the General Assembly. <u>Investment earnings credited to the assets of the Fund shall become</u> part of the Fund."

### PART XIII. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# ONE NORTH CAROLINA FUND

**SECTION 13.1.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the One North Carolina Fund, the Department of Commerce may use up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to cover its expenses in administering the One North Carolina Fund and other economic development incentive grant programs in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

# NC GREEN BUSINESS FUND

**SECTION 13.2.(a)** Article 10 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Part to read:

"Part 2B. NC Green Business Fund.

# "§ 143B-437.4. NC Green Business Fund established as a revolving loan fund.

- (a) <u>Establishment. The NC Green Business Fund is established as a revolving loan fund in the Department of Commerce, and the Department shall be responsible for administering the Fund.</u>
- (b) Purposes. Moneys in the NC Green Business Fund shall be allocated pursuant to this subsection. The Department of Commerce shall make no-interest loans from the Fund to private business with less than 100 employees, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and State agencies to encourage the expansion of small- to medium-size businesses with less than 100 employees to help grow a green

economy in the State. Moneys in the NC Green Business Fund shall be used for projects that will focus on the following three priority areas:

- (1) To encourage the development of the biofuels industry in the State.

  The Department of Commerce shall make no-interest loans available to maximize development, production, distribution, retail infrastructure, and consumer purchase of biofuels in North Carolina, including workforce development.
- (2) To encourage the development of the green building industry in the State. The Department of Commerce shall make no-interest loans available to grow a market for installation, certification, building material distribution, energy audits, and marketing and sales of green building in North Carolina, including workforce development.
- (3) To attract and leverage private-sector investments and entrepreneurial growth in additional clean technology and renewable energy products and businesses, including workforce development.

# "§ 143B-437.5. Green Business Fund Advisory Committee.

The Department of Commerce may establish an advisory committee to assist in the development of the specific selection criteria and the loan-making process of the NC Green Business Fund.

# "§ 143B-437.6. Agreements required.

Funds may be disbursed from the NC Green Business Fund only in accordance with agreements entered into between the Department of Commerce and an eligible loan recipient. Each agreement must contain the following provisions:

- (1) A description of the acceptable uses of loan proceeds. The agreement may limit the use of funds to specific purposes or may allow the funds to be used for any lawful purposes.
- (2) A provision allowing the Department of Commerce to inspect all reasonable records of the business that may be used to confirm compliance with the agreement or with the requirements of this Part.
- (3) A provision establishing the method for determining compliance with the agreement.
- (4) A provision establishing a schedule for disbursement of loan funds under the agreement.
- (5) A provision establishing a schedule for the repayment of the loan under the agreement.
- (6) A provision requiring repayment of loan funds if a business subsequently fails to comply with the terms of the agreement.
- (7) Any other provision the State finds necessary to ensure the proper use of State funds.

# "§ 143B-437.7. Program guidelines.

The Department of Commerce shall develop guidelines related to the administration of the NC Green Business Fund and to the selection of projects to receive no-interest loans from the Fund, including project evaluation measures. At least 20 days before the effective date of any guidelines or nontechnical amendments to guidelines, the Department of Commerce must publish the proposed guidelines on the Department's Web site and provide notice to persons who have requested notice of proposed guidelines. In addition, the Department must accept oral and written comments on the proposed guidelines during the 15 business days beginning on the first day that the Department has completed these notifications. For the purpose of this section, a technical amendment is either of the following:

(1) An amendment that corrects a spelling or grammatical error.

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(2) An amendment that makes a clarification based on public comment and could have been anticipated by the public notice that immediately preceded the public comment.

"§ 143B-437.8. Reports.

The Department of Commerce shall conduct an annual audit review of each NC Green Business Fund loan recipient to assess project quality assurance. The Department of Commerce shall publish a report on the use of funds in the NC Green Business Fund at the end of each fiscal year. The report shall contain information on the commitment, disbursement, and use of funds allocated under the NC Green Business Fund. The report shall also include the Department of Commerce's audit review of the NC Green Business Fund loan recipients. The report is due no later than September 1 and must be submitted to the following:

- (1) The Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.
- (2) The chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Finance Committees.
- (3) The chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees.
- (4) The Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly.

# "<u>§§ 143B-437.9 through 143B-437.11:</u> Reserved for future codification purposes." SECTION 13.2.(b) G.S. 147-68(d1) reads as rewritten:

"(d1) The Treasurer shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, to the Chairman, Appropriations Base Budget Committee and the Chairman, Appropriations Expansion Budget Committee of the House of Representatives, and to the Chairman, Committee on Appropriations and the Chairman, Committee on Base Budget of the Senatethe chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, the chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Finance Committees, and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly, on a quarterly basis, concerning all investments and deposits made by and through his office. The report shall include a listing of all investments with or on behalf of the State or any of its agencies or institutions and shall include the particular agency or institution, fund, rate of return, duration of the investment, and the amount of deposit on all noninterest bearing accounts. The first report is due 90 days after July 1, 1982, and shall include all investments and deposits made during the 1981-82 fiscal year and all investments made during the first quarter of the 1982-83 fiscal year; thereafter, reports shall be made on a quarterly basis including all investments and deposits made during that reporting period. The report shall include a specific listing of all investments made with certified green managers and companies and funds that support sustainable practices, including the names of the companies, managers, and funds, the amount invested, and the State's return on investment."

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### **EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT/USES**

**SECTION 13.3.** Part 2 of Article 10 of Chapter 143B is amended by adding a new section to read:

"§ 143B-437.011. Executive aircraft used for economic development; other uses.

The use of executive aircraft by the Department of Commerce for economic development purposes shall take precedence over all other uses. The Department of Commerce shall annually review the rates charged for the use of executive aircraft and shall adjust the rates, as necessary, to account for upgraded aircraft and inflationary increases in operating costs, including jet fuel prices. If executive aircraft is not being used for economic development purposes, priority of use shall be given first to the Governor, second to the Council of State, and third to other State officials traveling on

State business. If executive aircraft is used to attend athletic events or for any other purpose related to collegiate athletics, the rate charged shall be equal to the direct cost of operating the aircraft as established by the aircraft's manufacturer, adjusted for inflation."

#### EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION FUNDS

**SECTION 13.4.(a)** Funds from the Employment Security Commission Reserve Fund shall be available to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina to use as collateral to secure federal funds and to pay the administrative costs associated with the collection of the Employment Security Commission Reserve Fund surcharge. The total administrative costs paid with funds from the Reserve in the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall not exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).

**SECTION 13.4.(b)** There is appropriated from the Employment Security Commission Reserve Fund to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina the sum of seven million three hundred thousand dollars (\$7,300,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to be used for the following purposes:

- (1) Seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) for the operation and support of local offices.
- (2) Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee to develop and operate an interagency system to track former participants in State education and training programs.
- One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to maintain compliance with Chapter 96 of the General Statutes, which directs the Commission to employ the Common Follow-Up Management Information System to evaluate the effectiveness of the State's job training, education, and placement programs.

**SECTION 13.4.(c)** There is appropriated from the Employment Security Commission Reserve Fund to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina an amount not to exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to fund State initiatives not currently funded through federal grants.

**SECTION 13.4.(d)** There is appropriated from the Employment Security Commission Reserve Fund to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina an amount not to exceed three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to allow the Commission to continue to work with Connect, Inc., to provide dislocated workers with assistance in obtaining health care benefits, receiving vocational training, and securing employment.

**SECTION 13.4.(e)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007.

## NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR AUTOMOTIVE RESEARCH/FUNDS SHALL NOT REVERT

**SECTION 13.5.(a)** Funds appropriated to the North Carolina Center for Automotive Research, Inc., (Center) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and for the 2006-2007 fiscal year that are unexpended and unencumbered as of June 30, 2007, shall not revert to the General Fund on June 30, 2007, but shall remain available at the Department of Commerce.

**SECTION 13.5.(b)** Of the funds appropriated to the North Carolina Center for Automotive Research for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the Department of Commerce, with approval from the Office of State Budget and

- Management, may, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, allocate the remaining appropriated funds to the Center when the Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Department of Commerce, determines the Center has completed goals and projects consistent with the Center's business plan. The goals and projects shall include the following:
  - (1) The Center has obtained legal title to the property on which the Center will be built.
  - (2) The Center has determined and provided for the critical infrastructure needed to support the Center.
  - (3) The Center has entered into a contract for the use and operation of a testing facility that will create new private sector jobs in Tier 1 or Tier 2 counties.

**SECTION 13.5.(c)** No funds shall be released by the Office of State Budget and Management under subsection (b) of this section until a board of directors for the Center consisting of no fewer than five members representing five different organizations is appointed and operating.

**SECTION 13.5.(d)** The Center shall file with the Department of Commerce a copy of the Center's policy addressing conflicts of interest that may arise involving the Center's management employees and members of the Center's board of directors or other governing body before funds may be allocated to the Center. The policy shall address situations in which any of the Center's management employees and members of the board of directors or other governing body may directly or indirectly benefit, except as Center employees or members of the board or other governing body, from the Center's disbursing of State funds and shall include actions to be taken by the Center or the employee or member, or both, to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety.

**SECTION 13.5.(e)** By December 31, 2007, and April 30, 2008, the Center shall report to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, and the Fiscal Research Division the following information: (i) fiscal year 2007-2008 projects, objectives, and accomplishments; and (ii) fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources. The April 30, 2008, report shall also contain the following information: (i) fiscal year 2008-2009 planned projects, objectives, and accomplishments; and (ii) fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated expenditures and fund sources.

**SECTION 13.5.(f)** The Center shall also provide to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, and the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the Center's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement and a copy of the Center's IRS Form 990.

**SECTION 13.5.(g)** The Center shall provide a report containing detailed budget information to the Office of State Budget and Management in the same manner as State departments and agencies in preparation for biennium budget requests. The Center shall provide specific salary information upon the written request of the chairs of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the chairs of the House Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic Resources.

#### **COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS**

**SECTION 13.6.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce, eight hundred thirty-two thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$832,150) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and eight hundred thirty-two thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$832,150) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall only be used as provided by this

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section. Each regional council of government or lead regional organization is allocated up to forty-eight thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$48,950) for the 2007-2008 and the 2008-2009 fiscal years.

**SECTION 13.6.(b)** A regional council of government may use funds appropriated by this section only to assist local governments in grant applications, economic development, community development, support of local industrial development activities, and other activities as deemed appropriate by the member governments.

**SECTION 13.6.(c)** Funds appropriated by this section shall be paid by electronic transfer in two equal installments, the first no later than September 1, 2007, and the second subsequent to acceptable submission of the annual report due to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division by January 15, 2008, as specified in subdivision (e)(1) of this section.

**SECTION 13.6.(d)** Funds appropriated by this section shall not be used for payment of dues or assessments by the member governments and shall not supplant funds appropriated by the member governments.

**SECTION** 13.6.(e) Each council of government or lead regional organization shall do the following:

- (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments:
  - State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund b.
  - State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and c. accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2007; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources, through December 31, 2007.
- (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund b.
  - State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and c. accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2008; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources, through December 31, 2008.
- (3) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the organization's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

#### REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ALLOCATIONS

**SECTION 13.7.(a)** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce for regional economic development commissions shall be allocated to the

following commissions in accordance with subsection (b) of this section: Western North Carolina Regional Economic Development Commission, Research Triangle Regional Commission, Southeastern North Carolina Regional Economic Development Commission, Piedmont Triad Partnership, Northeastern North Carolina Regional Economic Development Commission, North Carolina's Eastern Region Economic Development Partnership, and Carolinas Partnership, Inc.

**SECTION 13.7.(b)** Funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be allocated to each regional economic development commission as follows:

- (1) First, the Department shall establish each Commission's allocation by determining the sum of allocations to each county that is a member of that Commission. Each county's allocation shall be determined by dividing the county's enterprise factor by the sum of the enterprise factors for eligible counties and multiplying the resulting percentage by the amount of the appropriation. As used in this subdivision, the term "enterprise factor" means a county's enterprise factor as calculated under G.S. 143B-437.08; and
- (2) Next, the Department shall subtract from funds allocated to the North Carolina's Eastern Region Economic Development Partnership the sum of three hundred thirty thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$330,750) in the 2007-2008 fiscal year and three hundred thirty thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$330,750) in the 2008-2009 fiscal year, which sum represents: (i) the total interest earnings in the prior fiscal year on the estimated balance of seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) appropriated to the Global TransPark Development Zone in Section 6 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws; and (ii) the total interest earnings in the prior fiscal year on loans made from the seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) appropriated to the Global TransPark Development Zone in Section 6 of Chapter 561 of the 1993 Session Laws; and
- (3) Next, the Department shall redistribute the sum of three hundred thirty thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$330,750) in the 2007-2008 fiscal year and three hundred thirty thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$330,750) in the 2008-2009 fiscal year to the seven regional economic development commissions named in subsection (a) of this section. Each commission's share of this redistribution shall be determined according to the enterprise factor formula set out in subdivision (1) of this subsection. This redistribution shall be in addition to each commission's allocation determined under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

#### REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORTS

**SECTION 13.8.(a)** By February 15 of each fiscal year, the seven regional economic development commissions shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:

- (1) The preceding fiscal year's program activities, objectives, and accomplishments.
- (2) The preceding fiscal year's itemized expenditures and fund sources.

- (3) Demonstration of how the commission's regional economic development and marketing strategy aligns with the State's overall economic development and marketing strategies.
- (4) To the extent they are involved in promotion activities such as trade shows, visits to prospects and consultants, advertising and media placement, the commissions shall demonstrate how they have generated qualified leads.

**SECTION 13.8.(b)** Each of the commissions shall provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of their annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

**SECTION 13.8.(c)** The reporting requirements for regional economic development commissions, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be reviewed annually by the North Carolina Partnership for Economic Development, and recommendations for changes to the reporting requirements shall be made to the Fiscal Research Division, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**SÉCTION 13.8.(d)** Regional economic development commissions shall receive quarterly allocations of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce for regional economic development commissions.

**SECTION 13.8.(e)** Regional economic development commissions shall remain in the Department of Commerce's Budget Code 14601 with other State-aided nonprofit entities.

## KERR-TAR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

**SECTION 13.9.** The Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development Corporation shall do the following:

- (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments including actual results through December 31, 2007; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2007.
- (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments including actual results through December 31, 2008; and

- d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2008.
- (3) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the corporation's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

#### **BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER**

**SECTION 13.10.(a)** The North Carolina Biotechnology Center shall recapture funds spent in support of successful research and development efforts in the for-profit private sector.

**SECTION 13.10.(b)** The North Carolina Biotechnology Center shall provide funding for biotechnology, biomedical, and related bioscience applications under its Business and Science Technology Programs.

**SECTION 13.10.(c)** The North Carolina Biotechnology Center shall:

- (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund sources:
  - c. State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2007; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2007.
- (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2008; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2008.
- (3) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the organization's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

**SECTION 13.10.(d)** The North Carolina Biotechnology Center shall provide a report containing detailed budget, personnel, and salary information to the Office of State Budget and Management and to the Fiscal Research Division in the same manner as State departments and agencies in preparation for biennium budget requests.

### NONPROFIT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- **SECTION 13.11.(a)** The N.C. Institute for Minority Economic Development, Inc., Land Loss Prevention Project, North Carolina Minority Support Center, North Carolina Community Development Initiative, Inc., North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations, Inc., Coalition of Farm and Rural Families, and Partnership for the Sounds, Inc., shall do the following:
  - (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
    - a. State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
    - b. State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund sources:
    - c. State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments including actual results through December 31, 2007; and
    - d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2007.
  - (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
    - a. State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
    - b. State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
    - c. State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments including actual results through December 31, 2008; and
    - d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2008.
  - (3) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the organization's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

**SECTION 13.11.(b)** No funds appropriated under this act shall be released to a nonprofit organization listed in subsection (a) of this section until the organization has satisfied the reporting requirement for January 15, 2007. Fourth quarter allotments shall not be released to any nonprofit organization that does not satisfy the reporting requirements by January 15, 2008, or January 15, 2009.

**SECTION 13.11.(c)** No funds shall be released to the Triangle Urban League if it is not in compliance with all State funding requirements governing State-Aid to non-State entities as of July 1, 2007.

#### RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**SECTION 13.12.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., the sum of one million nine hundred thirteen thousand one hundred twelve dollars (\$1,913,112) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of one million nine hundred thirteen thousand one hundred twelve dollars (\$1,913,112) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

2007-2008 2008-2009 Research and Demonstration Grants \$370,000 \$370,000

1	Technical Assistance and Center		
2	Administration of Research		
3	and Demonstration Grants	444,399	444,399
4	Center Administration, Oversight,		
5	and Other Programs	604,298	604,298
6	Administration of Clean Water/		
7	Natural Gas Critical Needs		
8	Bond Act of 1998	87,137	87,137
9	Additional Administration of Supplemental		
10	Funding Program	138,278	138,278
11	Administration of Capacity Building		
12	Assistance Program (1998 Bond Act)	125,000	125,000
13	Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship	144,000	144,000.
14	SECTION 13.12.(b) The Rural Eco	onomic Developm	ent Center, Inc.,

**SECTION 13.12.(b)** The Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall provide a report containing detailed budget, personnel, and salary information to the Office of State Budget and Management in the same manner as State departments and agencies in preparation for biennium budget requests.

**SECTION 13.12.(c)** For purposes of this section, the term "community development corporation" means a nonprofit corporation:

- Chartered pursuant to Chapter 55A of the General Statutes; (1)
- Tax-exempt pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue (2) Code of 1986:
- (3) Whose primary mission is to develop and improve low-income communities and neighborhoods through economic and related development:
- (4) Whose activities and decisions are initiated, managed, and controlled by the constituents of those local communities; and
- Whose primary function is to act as deal maker and packager of (5) projects and activities that will increase their constituencies' opportunities to become owners, managers, and producers of small businesses, affordable housing, and jobs designed to produce positive cash flow and curb blight in the targeted community.

**SECTION 13.12.(d)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., the sum of two million four hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred ten dollars (\$2,415,910) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of two million four hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred ten dollars (\$2,415,910) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$1,047,410 in each fiscal year for community development grants to support development projects and activities within the State's minority communities. Any new or previously funded community development corporation as defined in this section is eligible to apply for funds. The Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall establish performance-based criteria for determining which community development corporation will receive a grant and the grant amount. The Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall allocate these funds as follows:
  - \$1,047,410 for direct grants to local community development corporations to support operations and project activities.
  - \$50,000 in each fiscal year to the Rural Economic Development b. Center, Inc., to be used to cover expenses in administering this section.

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- (2) \$195,000 in each fiscal year to the Microenterprise Loan Program to support the loan fund and operations of the Program; and
- (3) \$983,000 in each fiscal year shall be used for a program to provide supplemental funding for matching requirements for projects and activities authorized under this subsection. The Center shall allocate these funds as follows:
  - a. \$675,000 in each fiscal year to make grants to local governments and nonprofit corporations to provide funds necessary to match federal grants or other grants for:
    - 1. Necessary economic development projects and activities in economically distressed areas;
    - 2. Necessary water and sewer projects and activities in economically distressed communities to address health or environmental quality problems except that funds shall not be expended for the repair or replacement of low-pressure-pipe wastewater systems. If a grant is awarded under this sub-subdivision, then the grant shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis in the amount of the grant awarded; or
    - 3. Projects that demonstrate alternative water and waste management processes for local governments. Special consideration should be given to cost-effectiveness, efficacy, management efficiency, and the ability of the demonstration project to be replicated.
  - b. \$208,000 in each fiscal year to make grants to local governments and nonprofit corporations to provide funds necessary to match federal grants or other grants related to water, sewer, or business development projects.
  - c. \$100,000 in each fiscal year to support the update of the statewide water and sewer database and to support the development of a statewide water management plan.
- (4) \$190,500 in each fiscal year for the Agricultural Advancement Consortium. These funds shall be placed in a reserve and allocated as follows:
  - a. \$75,000 in each fiscal year for operating expenses associated with the Consortium; and
  - b. \$115,500 in each fiscal year for research initiatives funded by the Consortium.

The Consortium shall facilitate discussions among interested parties and shall develop recommendations to improve the State's economic development through farming and agricultural interests.

The grant recipients in this subsection shall be selected on the basis of need.

**SECTION 13.12.(e)** Of the funds allocated to Research and Demonstration Grants for fiscal year 2007-2008 in subsection (a) of this section, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) shall be allocated to The Cooper Help Center for the planning and development of a neighborhood grocery and laundry center in an economically distressed inner-city community, and the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) shall be allocated to EBC-ATOM (A Total Outreach Ministry) Project for the development and implementation of a stabilization plan for targeted deteriorating neighborhoods in Nash and Halifax Counties.

**SECTION 13.12.(f)** The Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall:

- (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund sources:
  - c. State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2007; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2007.
- (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2008; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2008.
- (3) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of each grant recipient's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

**SECTION 13.12.(g)** No funds appropriated under this act shall be released to a community development corporation, as defined in this section, unless the corporation can demonstrate that there are no outstanding or proposed assessments or other collection actions against the corporation for any State or federal taxes, including related penalties, interest, and fees.

## RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER/INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

**SECTION 13.13.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., the sum of nineteen million five hundred thousand dollars (\$19,500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of nineteen million five hundred thousand dollars (\$19,500,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be allocated as follows:

(1) To continue the North Carolina Infrastructure Program. The purpose of the Program is to provide grants to local governments to construct critical water and wastewater facilities and to provide other infrastructure needs, including technology needs, to sites where these facilities will generate private job-creating investment. At least fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) of the funds appropriated in this act for each year of the biennium must be used to provide grants under this Program.

- (2) To provide matching grants to local governments in distressed areas and equity investments in public-private ventures that will productively reuse vacant buildings and properties, with priority given to towns or communities with populations of less than 5,000.
- (3) To provide economic development research and demonstration grants. **SECTION 13.13.(b)** The funds appropriated in this act to the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall be recurring funds.

**SECTION 13.13.(c)** The Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., may contract with other State agencies, constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina, and colleges within the North Carolina Community College System for certain aspects of the North Carolina Infrastructure Program, including design of Program guidelines and evaluation of Program results.

**SECTION 13.13.(d)** During each year of the 2007-2009 biennium, the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., may use up to two percent (2%) of the funds appropriated in this act to cover its expenses in administering the North Carolina Economic Infrastructure Program.

**SECTION 13.13.(e)** No later than January 15 of each year, the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations concerning the progress of the North Carolina Economic Infrastructure Program.

#### RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER FUNDS

**SECTION 13.14.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Inc. (Rural Center), the sum of nineteen million dollars (\$19,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to expand the North Carolina Rural Economic Infrastructure Fund with targeted priority to severely distressed rural areas.

**SECTION 13.14.(b)** The Rural Center shall use the funds appropriated in this act to establish and implement the Rural Economic Transition Program. This program shall provide grants and equity investments to carry out transformative economic development and agricultural enhancement projects that will generate jobs and expand business activity.

**SECTION 13.14.(c)** Units of local government and nonprofit organizations in rural areas are eligible for grants, with priority to applicants in development tier one areas as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08.

**SECTION 13.14.(d)** Priority for grant funds shall be given to economic development projects that satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) It is located in a county or census area with a persistently high poverty rate of at least one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the State's poverty rate according to the most recent decennial census.
- (2) It is located in a community that has experienced a sudden and severe economic downturn as reflected in numbers of business closings, layoffs, and unemployment rate during the previous 12 months.
- (3) It is located in a small town with a population under 10,000, an agrarian growth zone as defined in G.S. 143B-437.10, or an urban progress zone as defined in G.S. 143B-437.09.
- (4) It is identified in community-based strategic planning efforts and coordinated with other economic development and community-building initiatives, such as the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center Small Town Economic Prosperity Program, the North Carolina Department of Commerce 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Communities Program, the North Carolina Department of Commerce Main Street Program, and federally funded Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies.

- (5) It is supportive of strategies to expand entrepreneurial small business activity based on the natural, cultural, or historical assets of the community.
- (6) It has the ability to demonstrate benefits to small farm business diversifying into value-added production and marketing, and it increases opportunities in food and beverage manufacturing and distribution for small farm entrepreneurs.

**SECTION 13.14.(e)** Eligible units of local government and nonprofit organizations are not required to match grants received under this section, but shall demonstrate the commitment of other funds to the project.

**SECTION 13.14.(f)** Up to twenty percent (20%) of the funds appropriated in this section may be used for equity investments and loans through the Rural Venture Fund to private business ventures that will substantially transform and improve the economic status of rural areas, with priority to businesses locating or expanding in development tier one areas as defined in G.S. 143B-437.08.

**SECTION 13.14.(g)** The Rural Center may use a portion of the funds appropriated under this section, not to exceed four percent (4%), for administration of the programs created by this section.

**SECTION 13.14.(h)** The Rural Center may contract with other State agencies and branches of The University of North Carolina for certain aspects of the programs created under this section, including the design of program guidelines and evaluation of program results.

**SECTION 13.14.(i)** The Rural Center shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on a quarterly basis concerning the progress of the programs created under this section. The first report is due no later than February 15, 2008.

**SECTION 13.14.(j)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007.

#### OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER FUNDS

**SECTION 13.15.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., the sum of three hundred sixty-one thousand dollars (\$361,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of three hundred sixty-one thousand dollars (\$361,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year shall be equally distributed among the certified Opportunities Industrialization Centers for ongoing job training programs.

**SECTION 13.15.(b)** For each of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers receiving funds pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Rural Economic Development Center, Inc., shall:

- (1) By January 15, 2008, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2006-2007 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2006-2007 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2007-2008 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2007; and

- d. State fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2007.
- (2) By January 15, 2009, and more frequently as requested, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division the following information:
  - a. State fiscal year 2007-2008 program activities, objectives, and accomplishments;
  - b. State fiscal year 2007-2008 itemized expenditures and fund sources;
  - c. State fiscal year 2008-2009 planned activities, objectives, and accomplishments, including actual results through December 31, 2008; and
  - d. State fiscal year 2008-2009 estimated itemized expenditures and fund sources, including actual expenditures and fund sources through December 31, 2008.
- (3) Notwithstanding G.S. 143-6.1(d), file annually with the State Auditor a financial statement in the form and on the schedule prescribed by the State Auditor. The financial statements must be audited in accordance with standards prescribed by the State Auditor to assure that State funds are used for the purposes provided by law.
- (4) Provide to the Fiscal Research Division a copy of the annual audited financial statement required in subdivision (3) of this subsection within 30 days of issuance of the statement.

**SECTION 13.15.(c)** No funds appropriated under this act shall be released to an Opportunities Industrialization Center (hereinafter Center) listed in subsection (a) of this section if the Center has any overdue tax debts, as that term is defined in G.S. 105-243.1, at the federal or State level.

#### E-NC AUTHORITY CONTRACTS/ REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

**SECTION 13.16.(a)** The e-NC Authority may contract with other State agencies, The University of North Carolina, the North Carolina Community College System, and nonprofit organizations to assist with program development and the evaluation of program activities.

**SECTION 13.16.(b)** The e-NC Authority shall report to the 2008 General Assembly on the following:

- (1) The activities necessary to be undertaken in distressed urban areas of the State to enhance the capability of citizens and businesses residing in these areas to access high-speed Internet.
- (2) An implementation plan for the training of citizens and businesses in distressed urban areas.
- (3) The technology and digital literacy training necessary to assist citizens and existing businesses to create new technology-based enterprises in these communities and to use the Internet to enhance the productivity of their businesses.

The e-NC Authority shall, by September 30, 2007, and quarterly thereafter, report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on program development and the evaluation of program activities.

## WOW E-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PILOT PROGRAM FUNDS

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- **SECTION 13.17.(a)** Of the funds appropriated to the e-NC Authority for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the sum of two hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000) shall be transferred to WOW e-Community Development Corporation (WOW e-CDC) for the Windows on the World Technology Center to establish and implement a two-year pilot program that will enable the Windows on the World Technology Center to become the northeastern North Carolina regional technology resource center for indigent rural low-wealth communities through direct engagement. These funds shall be used as follows:
  - \$150,000 for operating expenses of the Windows on the World (1) Technology Center.
  - (2) \$100,000 for the following:
    - Developing, maintaining, and hosting municipal Web sites and a northeastern North Carolina portal.
    - Expanding public access points and digital literacy classes in b. the northeastern North Carolina Tier I counties.
    - c. Establishing initiatives in indigent communities to create a sense of urgency concerning digital literacy and information technology.
  - \$40,000 for operations of the Internet service provider.

These funds shall not revert at the end of each fiscal year but shall remain available until expended for the purposes provided in this subsection.

**SECTION 13.17.(b)** No funds shall be released by the Office of State Budget and Management to WOW e-CDC until the Office of the State Auditor finds that the WOW e-CDC is in compliance with all recommendations made by the State Auditor regarding fiscal management and internal controls.

**SECTION 13.17.(c)** WOW e-CDC shall file with the Department of Commerce a copy of WOW e-CDC's policy addressing conflicts of interest that may arise involving WOW e-CDC's management employees and members of WOW e-CDC's board of directors or other governing body before funds may be allocated to WOW e-CDC. The policy shall address situations in which any of WOW e-CDC's management employees and members of the board of directors or other governing body may directly or indirectly benefit, except as WOW e-CDC employees or members of the board or other governing body, from WOW e-CDC's disbursing of State funds, and the policy shall include actions to be taken by WOW e-CDC or the employee or member, or both, to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety.

**SECTION 13.17.(e)** By April 30, 2008, WOW e-CDC shall report to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, and the Fiscal Research Division the following information: (i) fiscal year 2007-2008 planned projects, objectives, and accomplishments; and (ii) fiscal year 2007-2008 estimated expenditures and fund sources.

**SECTION 13.17.(f)** WOW e-CDC shall also provide to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, and the Fiscal Research Division a copy of WOW e-CDC's annual audited financial statement within 30 days of issuance of the statement and a copy of WOW e-CDC's IRS Form 990.

**SECTION 13.17.(g)** WOW e-CDC shall provide a report containing detailed budget information to the Office of State Budget and Management in the same manner as State departments and agencies in preparation for biennium budget requests. WOW e-CDC shall provide specific salary information upon the written request of the chairs of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the chairs of the House Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic Resources and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Natural and Economic Resources.

#### **NER BLOCK GRANTS**

**SECTION 13.18.(a)** Appropriations from federal block grant funds are made for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, according to the following schedule:

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

1			
8	01.	State Administration	\$ 1,000,000
9 10	02.	Urgent Needs and Contingency	1,000,000
11			, ,
12 13	03.	Scattered Site Housing	13,200,000
14	04.	Economic Development	7,710,000
15 16	05	Small Business/Entrepreneurship	1,000,000
17	05.	Sman Business/Entrepreneursinp	1,000,000
18	06.	Community Revitalization	13,500,000
19 20	07.	State Technical Assistance	450,000
21	07.	State Technical Assistance	430,000
22	08.	Housing Development	2,000,000
23	00	T.C.	5 140 000
24 25	09.	Infrastructure	5,140,000
26	TOTAI	L COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	
27	BLOCE	K GRANT – 2008 Program Year	\$ 45,000,000

**SECTION 13.18.(b)** Decreases in Federal Fund Availability. – If federal funds are reduced below the amounts specified above after the effective date of this act, then every program in each of these federal block grants shall be reduced by the same percentage as the reduction in federal funds.

**SECTION 13.18.(c)** Increases in Federal Fund Availability for Community Development Block Grant. – Any block grant funds appropriated by the Congress of the United States in addition to the funds specified in this section shall be expended as follows: each program category under the Community Development Block Grant shall be increased by the same percentage as the increase in federal funds.

**SECTION 13.18.(d)** Limitations on Community Development Block Grant Funds. – Of the funds appropriated in this section for the Community Development Block Grant, the following shall be allocated in each category for each program year: up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) may be used for State Administration; not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) may be used for Urgent Needs and Contingency; up to thirteen million two hundred thousand dollars (\$13,200,000) may be used for Scattered Site Housing; seven million seven hundred ten thousand dollars (\$7,710,000) may be used for Economic Development; up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) may be used for Small Business/Entrepreneurship; not less than thirteen million five hundred thousand dollars (\$13,500,000) shall be used for Community Revitalization; up to four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000) may be used for State Technical Assistance; up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) may be used for Housing Development; up to five million one hundred forty thousand dollars (\$5,140,000) may be used for Infrastructure. If federal block grant funds are reduced or increased by the Congress of

the United States after the effective date of this act, then these reductions or increases shall be allocated in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, as applicable.

**SECTION 13.18.(e)** Increase Capacity for Nonprofit Organizations. – Assistance to nonprofit organizations to increase their capacity to carry out CDBG-eligible activities in partnership with units of local government is an eligible activity under any program category in accordance with federal regulations. Capacity building grants may be made from funds available within program categories, program income, or unobligated funds.

**SECTION 13.18.(f)** The Department of Commerce will operate a small business/entrepreneurship program in coordination with micro-lending programs and other small business assistance groups in the State. The Department of Commerce shall award up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in grants to local governments to provide assistance to low-to-moderate income individuals for small business and entrepreneurship development as a means of achieving economic independence during these times of structural change in North Carolina's economy.

**SECTION 13.18.(g)** The Department of Commerce shall consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to reallocating Community Development Block Grant Funds. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, whenever the Director of the Budget finds that:

- (1) A reallocation is required because of an emergency that poses an imminent threat to public health or public safety, the Director of the Budget may authorize the reallocation without consulting the Commission. The Department of Commerce shall report to the Commission on the reallocation no later than 30 days after it was authorized and shall identify in the report the emergency, the type of action taken, and how it was related to the emergency.
- (2) The State will lose federal block grant funds or receive less federal block grant funds in the next fiscal year unless a reallocation is made. The Department of Commerce shall provide a written report to the Commission on the proposed reallocation and shall identify the reason that failure to take action will result in the loss of federal funds. If the Commission does not hear the issue within 30 days of receipt of the report, the Department may take the action without consulting the Commission.

#### PART XIV. JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

#### TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY FUNDS

**SECTION 14.1.** Funds appropriated to the Judicial Department in the 2007-2009 biennium for equipment and supplies shall be certified in a reserve account. The Administrative Office of the Courts may transfer these funds to the appropriate programs and between programs as the equipment priorities and supply consumptions occur during the operating year. These funds shall not be expended for any other purpose.

#### **GRANT FUNDS**

**SECTION 14.2.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-9, the Judicial Department may use up to the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) from funds available to the Department to provide the State match needed in order to receive grant funds. Prior to using funds for this purpose, the Department shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on

Justice and Public Safety and to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the grants to be matched using these funds.

#### NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR FUNDS

**SECTION 14.3.** Of the funds appropriated in the continuation budget as a grant-in-aid to the North Carolina State Bar for the 2007-2009 biennium, the North Carolina State Bar may in its discretion use up to the sum of five hundred one thousand five hundred dollars (\$501,500) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and up to the sum of five hundred one thousand five hundred dollars (\$501,500) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to contract with the Center for Death Penalty Litigation to provide training, consultation, brief banking, and other assistance to attorneys representing indigent capital defendants. The Office of Indigent Defense Services shall report by February 1, 2008, to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the activities funded by the grant-in-aid authorized by this section.

#### OFFICE OF INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES EXPANSION FUNDS

**SECTION 14.4.** The Judicial Department, Office of Indigent Defense Services, may use up to the sum of two million one hundred ninety-two thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$2,192,350) in appropriated funds during the 2007-2008 fiscal year and up to the sum of two million eighty-two thousand five hundred ten dollars (\$2,082,510) in appropriated funds during the 2008-2009 fiscal year for the expansion of existing or new public defender offices currently providing legal services to the indigent population under the oversight of the Office of Indigent Defense Services by creating up to 20 new attorney positions and 10 new support staff positions. These funds may be used for salaries, benefits, equipment, and related expenses. Prior to using funds for this purpose, the Office of Indigent Defense Services shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the proposed expansion.

#### OFFICE OF INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES REPORT

**SECTION 14.5.** The Office of Indigent Defense Services shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by March 1 of each year on:

- (1) The volume and cost of cases handled in each district by assigned counsel or public defenders;
- (2) Actions taken by the Office to improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of indigent defense, including the capital case program;
- (3) Plans for changes in rules, standards, or regulations in the upcoming year; and
- (4) Any recommended changes in law or funding procedures that would assist the Office in improving the management of funds expended for indigent defense services.
- (5) The changes in operations implemented in response to the following findings and recommendations contained in the March 2007 State Audit Report:
  - a. Attorney fee payment process lacks adequate controls.
  - b. Attorney fee payment process is inefficient and labor-intensive.
  - c. The Office should automate the attorney fee payment process and require attorneys to register for electronic fund transfer.

#### INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES/STATE MATCH FOR GRANTS

**SECTION 14.6.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-9, the Office of Indigent Defense Services may use the sum of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from funds available to provide the State matching funds needed to receive grant funds. Prior to using funds for this purpose, the Office shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the grants to be matched using these funds.

#### REPORT ON BUSINESS COURTS

**SECTION 14.7.** The Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by March 1 of each year on the activities of each North Carolina Business Court site, including the number of new, closed, and pending cases; average age of pending cases, and annual expenditures for the prior fiscal year.

#### COLLECTION OF WORTHLESS CHECK FUNDS

**SECTION 14.8.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 7A-308(c), the Judicial Department may use any balance remaining in the Collection of Worthless Checks Fund on June 30, 2007, for the purchase or repair of office or information technology equipment during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Prior to using any funds under this section, the Judicial Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the equipment to be purchased or repaired and the reasons for the purchases.

#### **DISPUTE RESOLUTION FEES**

**SECTION 14.9.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143C-1-2(b), certification and renewal fees collected by the Dispute Resolution Commission are non-reverting and are only to be used at the direction of the Commission.

#### REIMBURSEMENT FOR USE OF PERSONAL VEHICLES

**SECTION 14.10.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 138-6(a)(1), the Judicial Department, during the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, may elect to establish a per-mile reimbursement rate for transportation by privately owned vehicles at a rate less than the business standard mileage rate set by the Internal Revenue Service.

#### DRUG TREATMENT COURT FUNDS

**SECTION 14.11.** Except as otherwise provided in this act, funds appropriated to the Judicial Department in this act for the Drug Treatment Court program shall be used only to provide treatment and case coordination to offenders sentenced to intermediate punishment and to offenders sentenced to community punishment who are at risk of revocation.

#### DRUG TREATMENT FUNDS NEED NOT BE GRANTED

**SECTION 14.12.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 7A-794 and G.S. 7A-798, funds appropriated to the Judicial Department for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium for drug treatment courts need not be granted but may be budgeted to support existing and new drug treatment courts in a manner similar to other specialty courts operating within the Judicial Department.

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

SECTION 14.13.(a) G.S. 7A-133(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Each district court district shall have the numbers of judges as set forth in the following table:

5	following table.		
6			
7 8	District	Judges	County
8	1	5	Camden
9			Chowan
10			Currituck
11			Dare
12			Gates
13			Pasquotank
14			Perquimans
15	2	4	Martin
16	2	4	
			Beaufort
17			Tyrrell
18			Hyde
19		_	Washington
20	3A	5	Pitt
21	3B	6	Craven
22			Pamlico
23			Carteret
24	4	8	Sampson
25		-	Duplin
26			Jones
27			Onslow
28	5	8	New Hanover
28 29	3	O	
29	C A	2	Pender
30	6A	3 3	Halifax
31	6B	3	Northampton
32			Bertie
33			Hertford
34	7	7	Nash
35			Edgecombe
36			Wilson
37	8	6	Wayne
38			Greene
39			Lenoir
40	9	4	Granville
41		·	(part of Vance
42			see subsection (b))
43			Franklin
44	9A	2	Person
	9A	2	
45	OD	2	Caswell
46	9B	2	Warren
47			(part of Vance
48			see subsection (b))
49	10	<del>16</del> <u>17</u>	Wake
50	11	<del>9</del> <u>10</u>	Harnett
51			Johnston

	General Assembly of North Carolina		Session 2007	
1			Lee	
2	12	9	Cumberland	
3	13	6	Bladen	
2 3 4	13	O	Brunswick	
5			Columbus	
5 6	14	7	Durham	
7	15A	4	Alamance	
8	15A 15B	5		
9	13B	3	Orange Chatham	
	164	2		
10	16A	3	Scotland	
11	1.00	~	Hoke	
12	16B	5 3	Robeson	
13	17A	3	Rockingham	
14	17B	4	Stokes	
15			Surry	
16	18	13	Guilford	
17	19A	4	Cabarrus	
18	19B	7	Montgomery	
19			Moore	
20			Randolph	
21	19C	5	Rowan	
22	20A	4	Stanly	
23	2011	·	Anson	
24			Richmond	
2 <del>5</del>	20B	1	(part of Union	
25 26	2013	1		
20 27	20C	2	see subsection (b))	
	20C	2	(part of Union	
28	2.1	0	see subsection (b))	
29	21	9 9	Forsyth	
30	22	9	Alexander	
31			Davidson	
32			Davie	
33			Iredell	
34	23	4	Alleghany	
35			Ashe	
36			Wilkes	
37			Yadkin	
38	24	4	Avery	
39			Madison	
40			Mitchell	
41			Watauga	
42			Yancey	
43	25	9	Burke	
	23	9		
44 45			Caldwell	
45	26	10.10	Catawba	
46	26	<del>18</del> <u>19</u>	Mecklenburg	
47	27A	7	Gaston	
48	27B	5	Cleveland	
49			Lincoln	
50	28	7	Buncombe	
51	29A	3	McDowell	

1			Rutherford
2	29B	4	Henderson
3			Polk
4			Transylvania
5	30	6	Cherokee
6			Clay
7			Graham
8			Haywood
9			Jackson
10			Macon
11			Swain."
12	SECTION 14	<b>.13.(b)</b> The Governor shall ap	point the additional

**SECTION 14.13.(b)** The Governor shall appoint the additional district court judges authorized by subsection (a) of this section. Those judges' successors shall be elected in the 2008 general election for four-year terms commencing January 1, 2009.

#### ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

**SECTION 14.14.** G.S. 7A-60 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(a2) In addition to the full-time district attorneys set forth in subsection (a1) of this section, the Administrative Office of the Courts may allocate up to 30 assistant district attorneys to the various prosecutorial districts based upon caseloads and other criteria to be determined by the Administrative Office of the Courts."

## STUDY AVAILABILITY OF PROSECUTORIAL RESOURCES TO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND THE MANAGEMENT AND USE OF THOSE RESOURCES BY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

**SECTION 14.15.(a)** The Legislative Research Commission shall contract for an independent study that assesses the availability of prosecutorial resources to the State's district attorneys and that assesses the use and management of those prosecutorial resources by the district attorneys, their staffs, and the Conference of District Attorneys. The study shall address all of the following:

- (1) Current prosecutorial resources. Resources to be considered include those available to district attorneys and their legal, administrative, support, and investigative staff, and the Conference of District Attorneys. The study shall also consider supplemental assistance and resources provided to district attorneys and their staffs through the State or other funding sources.
- (2) Services provided by the State's district attorneys and Conference of District Attorneys and the recipients of those services.
- (3) Funding of prosecutorial services, adequacy of supplies, equipment, and working space, and allocation of prosecutorial resources. Issues to be considered shall include the following:
  - a. Funding, supplies, equipment, and space required to support prosecutorial services at an appropriate level.
  - b. Distribution of prosecutorial resources and how that distribution is determined.
  - c. Equitable allocation of prosecutorial resources among the geographical areas of the State and between urban and rural areas.

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- d. The proportion of prosecution personnel and budget that is devoted to criminal prosecution, as opposed to other functions or mandates.
- e. Whether monies from the General Fund should be used to support positions for the Conference of District Attorneys, or positions for any other conferences that provide prosecutorial resources.
- (4) The current role of the Conference of District Attorneys and district attorneys in assessing the needs of the public with regard to prosecutorial services and providing assistance in meeting those needs. The study shall also assess the current role, responsibilities, and interaction of the Conference of District Attorneys with regard to the General Assembly and the executive branch and whether those roles and responsibilities should be modified.
- (5) Automation. The study shall document which prosecutorial services are currently automated and the ability of those systems to interact with each other. The study shall also address areas in which automation could improve or increase the efficiency of prosecutorial services.
- (6) Cost management practices of district attorneys and their staffs. Practices to be reviewed and considered shall include how well district attorneys' offices manage costs associated with a prosecution such as forensics costs, expert witnesses, and witness travel expenses.
- (7) Caseload management. In the assessment of caseload management, the study shall focus particularly on whether current management techniques used by district attorneys recognize the critical need to prosecute serious crimes in a timely manner and to keep jail populations at a low level; the techniques, if any that have been adopted to achieve those objectives; and the effectiveness of those management techniques. Other issues that shall also be considered include the following:
  - a. Mechanisms used by the district attorney to manage the incoming caseloads generally.
  - b. The screening process, if any, for assessing cases prior to assignment.
  - c. Initiatives implemented by a district attorney, if any, to expedite the resolution of certain categories of cases.
  - d. The type of statistics, if any, the district attorney's office keeps and for what purposes.
  - e. Performance indicators, if any, used by district attorneys. If performance indicators are not being used, then the study shall assess whether implementation of performance indicators would be helpful in achieving management goals and the types of indicators that may assist with caseload management. If there are performance indicators, then the study shall identify the indicators, how they are developed, the effectiveness of the indicators, and whether additional performance indicators or modification of existing performance indicators would be helpful in achieving management objectives.
- (8) How the current management and use of prosecutorial resources affect the following:

- a. Access to justice.
- b. Day-to-day functioning of the prosecution service.
- c. Case management, including the development of case screening mechanisms and protocols for diversion.
- d. Timely resolution of caseloads.
- e. Reduction of any backlogs that exist and the impact that current management and use of prosecutorial resources has on the jail population.
- f. The capacity to handle specialized or complex crimes.
- g. The effectiveness of district attorneys and their staffs in responding to domestic violence and other crimes of violence.
- h. Services and support provided to victims.
- i. Accountability to the public.
- (9) Any other issue deemed relevant by the Legislative Research Commission.

**SECTION 14.15.(b)** The findings and recommendations of the study shall be reported to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committee, Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, and the Fiscal Research Division by March 15, 2008.

#### PART XV. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## STATEWIDE AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT SYSTEM REPLACEMENT (SAFIS) REPORTS

**SECTION 15.1.** The Department of Justice shall provide two status reports on the implementation of Phase II of SAFIS to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations. The first report shall be provided no later than February 1, 2008, and the second report shall be provided no later than May 1, 2008. Each report shall include all of the following:

- (1) A description of the system.
- (2) A summary of work done with prior year appropriations.
- (3) A list of all sites that are scheduled to receive new equipment.
- (4) A list of sites that have already received new equipment.
- (5) A time line for completion of the project.
- (6) Expenditures for the year to date.

## PRIVATE PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND ALARM SYSTEMS LICENSING BOARDS PAY FOR USE OF STATE FACILITIES AND SERVICES

**SECTION 15.2.** The Private Protective Services and Alarm Systems Licensing Boards shall pay the appropriate State agency for the use of physical facilities and services provided to those Boards by the State.

## USE OF SEIZED AND FORFEITED PROPERTY TRANSFERRED TO STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

**SECTION 15.3.(a)** Assets transferred to the Departments of Justice, Correction, and Crime Control and Public Safety during the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium pursuant to applicable federal law shall be credited to the budgets of the respective departments and shall result in an increase of law enforcement resources for those departments. The Departments of Justice, Correction, and Crime Control and Public

Safety shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations upon receipt of the assets and, before using the assets, shall report on the intended use of the assets and the departmental priorities on which the assets may be expended.

**SECTION 15.3.(b)** The General Assembly finds that the use of assets transferred pursuant to federal law for new personnel positions, new projects, acquisition of real property, repair of buildings where the repair includes structural change, and construction of or additions to buildings may result in additional expenses for the State in future fiscal periods. Therefore, the Department of Justice, the Department of Correction, and the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety are prohibited from using these assets for such purposes without the prior approval of the General Assembly.

**SECTION 15.3.(c)** Nothing in this section prohibits North Carolina law enforcement agencies from receiving funds from the United States Department of Justice, the United States Department of the Treasury, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

#### CERTAIN LITIGATION EXPENSES TO BE PAID BY CLIENTS

**SECTION 15.4.** Client departments, agencies, and boards shall reimburse the Department of Justice for reasonable court fees, attorney travel and subsistence costs, and other costs directly related to litigation in which the Department of Justice is representing the department, agency, or board.

### REIMBURSEMENT FOR UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS LEGAL REPRESENTATION

**SECTION 15.5.** The Department of Justice shall be reimbursed by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for two Attorney III positions to provide legal representation to The University of North Carolina System.

## NC LEGAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION REPORT ON FUNDS DISBURSED

**SECTION 15.6.** The North Carolina Legal Education Assistance Foundation shall report by March 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of State funds, the purpose of the expenditures, the number of attorneys receiving funds, the average award amount, the average student loan amount, the number of attorneys on the waiting list, and the average number of years for which attorneys receive loan assistance.

#### PART XVI. DEPARTMENT OF CRIME CONTROL AND PUBLIC SAFETY

#### ANNUAL EVALUATION OF TARHEEL CHALLENGE PROGRAM

**SECTION 16.1.** The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by March 1 of each year of the biennium on the operations and effectiveness of the National Guard Tarheel Challenge Program. In particular, the Department shall evaluate and report on the Program's effectiveness as an intervention method for preventing juveniles from becoming undisciplined or delinquent and on the Program's role in improving individual skills and employment potential for participants. The report shall also include all of the following:

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- (1) The source of referrals for individuals participating in the Program.
- (2) The summary of types of actions or offenses committed by the participants of the Program.
- (3) An analysis outlining the cost of providing services for each participant, including a breakdown of all expenditures related to the administration and operation of the Program and the education and treatment of the Program participants.
- (4) The number of individuals who successfully complete the Program.
- (5) The number of participants who commit offenses after completing the Program.

#### NEW ALE NON-SWORN JOB CLASSIFICATION

**SECTION 16.2.(a)** As recommended by the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly in the February 2007 Justification Review, the State Personnel Commission shall develop for review a new non-sworn position classification for the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety that would supplement the agents that are employed by the Division.

**SECTION 16.2.(b)** Prior to the action taken pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Office of State Personnel shall review all of the following:

- (1) The Justification Review report.
- (2) Current position descriptions and job classifications.
- (3) Tasks currently performed by ALE field agents in order to determine tasks that could be performed by non-sworn or noncertified personnel.
- (4) Information on other states that use non-sworn staff for inspection, compliance, and education efforts currently performed by North Carolina ALE agents.

**SECTION 16.2.(c)** The Office of State Personnel shall report the results of its review in writing to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and to the State Personnel Commission by February 1, 2008. The Office of State Personnel report shall include (i) a detailed description of the new ALE civilian position, including the job classification, a description of all of the duties assigned to the position, and the salary grade for the position, (ii) the estimated number of positions that should be established, and (iii) a time line for further review of the job classification by the State Personnel Commission.

## ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCE STUDY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND THE GEOSPATIAL AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**SECTION 16.3.(a)** The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety shall study alternative funding sources for the operating costs of the Law Enforcement Support Services Program. By March 1, 2008, the Department shall report the results of this study to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety. This report shall include information about possible federal grant sources and options for receipt-based funding from State and local agencies.

**SECTION 16.3.(b)** The Department of Crime Control and Public Safety shall study alternative funding sources for the Geospatial and Technology Management Program. By March 1, 2008, the Department shall report the results of this study to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations

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Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety. This report shall include information about possible federal grant sources and receipt-based funding options from federal, State, and local agencies as well as private industry.

#### NC NATIONAL GUARD KIDS ON GUARD REPORT

**SECTION 16.4.** The National Guard Kids on Guard program shall report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Chairs of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety no later than March 1, 2008. The report shall include information on (i) the program's funding, (ii) the program's expenditures, (iii) the number of events completed and planned for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, and (iv) the number of children served.

#### **USE OF GANG PREVENTION FUNDS**

**SECTION 16.5.(a)** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Governor's Crime Commission, the sum of four million seven hundred sixty thousand one hundred ninety-five dollars (\$4,760,195) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to provide grants for street gang violence prevention and intervention programs.

**SECTION 16.5.(b)** The Governor's Crime Commission shall develop the criteria for eligibility for these funds. The criteria shall include a matching requirement of twenty-five percent (25%), one-half of which may be in in-kind contributions, and presentation of a written plan for the services to be provided by the funds. Funds shall be available to public and private entities or agencies for juvenile or adult programs that meet the criteria established by the Governor's Crime Commission.

**SECTION 16.5.(c)** The Governor's Crime Commission shall report on the uses of these funds no later than April 1, 2008, to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety, and the Fiscal Research Division.

#### PART XVII. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

#### MUTUAL AGREEMENT PAROLE PROGRAM

**SECTION 17.1.** The Department of Correction and the Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the number of inmates enrolled in the program, the number completing the program and being paroled, and the number who enrolled but were terminated from the program. The information should be based on the previous calendar year.

#### INMATE ROAD SOUADS AND LITTER CREWS

**SECTION 17.2.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Transportation in this act, the sum of eleven million three hundred thousand dollars (\$11,300,000) per year shall be transferred by the Department to the Department of Correction during the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years for the cost of operating medium custody inmate road squads, as authorized by G.S. 148-26.5, and minimum custody inmate litter crews. This transfer shall be made quarterly in the amount of two million eight hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$2,825,000). The Department of Transportation may use funds appropriated in this act to pay an additional amount exceeding the eleven million three hundred thousand dollars (\$11,300,000), but those

payments shall be subject to negotiations among the Department of Transportation, the Department of Correction, and the Office of State Budget and Management prior to payment by the Department of Transportation.

The Office of State Budget and Management shall conduct a study, in consultation with the Department of Correction and the Department of Transportation, to determine the actual cost and cost/benefit of operating medium custody road squads and minimum custody litter crews. The Office of State Budget and Management shall report the results of this study to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee by March 1, 2008. The study shall include a recommendation on whether or not the amount transferred from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Correction for this work is adequate.

#### ALCOHOL AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM REPORT

**SECTION 17.3.(a)** G.S. 143B-262.3. reads as rewritten:

#### "§ 143B-262.3. Reports to the General Assembly.

- (a) The Department of Correction shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and the Chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees in Justice and Public Safety on their efforts to provide effective treatment to offenders with substance abuse problems. The report shall include:
  - (1) Details of any new initiatives and expansions or reduction of programs;
  - (2) Details on any treatment efforts conducted in conjunction with other departments;
  - (3) Utilization of <u>and completion rates for</u> the DART/DWI program, including <u>its</u> <u>a report of the status of the</u> aftercare program;
  - (4) Progress in the development on an offender and inmate tracking and program evaluation system; and
  - (5) A report on the number of current inmates with substance abuse problems, the numbers currently receiving treatment, and the numbers who have completed treatment. As an offender and inmate tracking system becomes operational, this report shall also include information on the recidivism of inmates who have previously completed substance abuse treatment and been released from prison.
  - (6) Statistical information on the number of current inmates with substance abuse problems that require treatment, the number receiving treatment, the numbers who have completed treatment and a comparison of available treatment slots to actual utilization rates. The report shall include this information for each DOC funded program; and
  - (7) Evaluation of each substance abuse treatment program funded by the Department of Correction. Evaluation measures shall include reduction in alcohol and drug dependency, recidivism, and other measures of the programs' success.
- (b) The Department shall also report to the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by May 1, 2004, and by February 1 annually beginning in 2005, on the average caseloads of Community Service Work Program coordinators, by district, division, and statewide. The report shall also include the money collected, the type and value of the work performed, and the number of offenders in the Community Service Work Program, by

type of referral (i.e. parole, supervised probation, unsupervised probation or community punishment, DWI, or any other agency referrals)."

**SECTION 17.3.(b)** During the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the Department of Correction evaluation effort shall focus mainly on evaluation of the long-term residential therapeutic communities operated by the Department of Correction through private contract and those operated directly by the Department of Correction. The evaluation component of the March 1, 2008, annual report shall be a status report and provide preliminary information. The final evaluation report shall be included in the March 1, 2009, annual report.

#### INMATE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

**SECTION 17.4.** Funding authorized in this act is intended to increase participation in the Inmate Construction Program in order to improve inmate job skills and reduce recidivism. By April 1, 2008, the Department of Correction shall report to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the Inmate Construction Program. The report shall summarize the 2007-2008 Inmate Construction Program projects, including a description of each project, the number of inmate workers, and the estimated total cost of the project compared to the cost if the project was conducted without inmate workers. The report shall also estimate the number of inmate workers that will be used in the program during the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

#### FEDERAL GRANT REPORTING

**SECTION 17.5.** The Department of Correction, the Department of Justice, the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, the Judicial Department, and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall report by May 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on federal grant funds received or preapproved for receipt by those departments. The report shall include information on the amount of grant funds received or preapproved for receipt by each department, the use of the funds, the State match expended to receive the funds, and the period to be covered by each grant. If the department intends to continue the program beyond the end of the grant period, the department shall report on the proposed method for continuing the funding of the program at the end of the grant period. Each department shall also report on any information it may have indicating that the State will be requested to provide future funding for a program presently supported by a local grant.

# REIMBURSE COUNTIES FOR HOUSING AND EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL COSTS FOR INMATES, PAROLEES, AND POST-RELEASE SUPERVISEES AWAITING TRANSFER TO STATE PRISON SYSTEM

**SECTION 17.6.** Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-6-9, the Department of Correction may use funds available to the Department for the 2007-2009 biennium to pay the sum of forty dollars (\$40.00) per day as reimbursement to counties for the cost of housing convicted inmates, parolees, and post-release supervisees awaiting transfer to the State prison system, as provided in G.S. 148-29. The Department shall report quarterly to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, and the

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Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer and on its progress in reducing the jail backlog.

#### **USE OF CLOSED PRISON FACILITIES**

**SECTION 17.7.** In conjunction with the closing of prison facilities, including small expensive prison units recommended for consolidation by the Government Performance Audit Committee, the Department of Correction shall consult with the county or municipality in which the unit is located, with the elected State and local officials, and with State agencies about the possibility of converting that unit to other use. The Department may also consult with any private for-profit or nonprofit firm about the possibility of converting the unit to other use. In developing a proposal for future use of each unit, the Department shall give priority to converting the unit to other criminal justice use. Consistent with existing law and the future needs of the Department of Correction, the State may provide for the transfer or the lease of any of these units to counties, municipalities, State agencies, or private firms wishing to convert them to other use. The Department of Correction may also consider converting some of the units recommended for closing from one security custody level to another, where that conversion would be cost-effective. A prison unit under lease to a county pursuant to the provisions of this section for use as a jail is exempt for the period of the lease from any of the minimum standards adopted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to G.S. 153A-221 for the housing of adult prisoners that would subject the unit to greater standards than those required of a unit of the State prison system.

Prior to any transfer or lease of these units, the Department of Correction shall report on the terms of the proposed transfer or lease to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee. The Department of Correction shall also provide annual summary reports to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the conversion of these units to other use and on all leases or transfers entered into pursuant to this section.

#### LIMIT USE OF OPERATIONAL FUNDS

**SECTION 17.8.** Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Correction for operational costs for additional facilities shall be used for personnel and operating expenses set forth in the budget approved by the General Assembly in this act. These funds shall not be expended for any other purpose, except as provided for in this act, and shall not be expended for additional prison personnel positions until the new facilities are within 120 days of projected completion, except that the Department may establish critical positions prior to 120 days of completion representing no more than twenty percent (20%) of the total estimated number of positions.

#### ENERGY COMMITTED TO OFFENDERS/CONTRACT AND REPORT

**SECTION 17.9.** The Department of Correction may continue to contract with Energy Committed To Offenders, Inc., for the purchase of prison beds for minimum security female inmates during the 2007-2009 biennium. Energy Committed To Offenders, Inc., shall report by February 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the annual cost per inmate and the average daily inmate population compared to bed capacity using the same methodology as that used by the Department of Correction.

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#### INMATE MEDICAL COSTS

**SECTION 17.10.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143C-6-9, the Department of Correction may use funds available during the 2007-2009 biennium for the purchase of inmate medical services if expenditures are projected to exceed the Department's inmate medical continuation budget. The Department shall consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to exceeding the continuation budget amount.

#### PAROLE ELIGIBILITY REPORT

**SECTION 17.11.(a)** The Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission shall, with the assistance of the North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission and the Department of Correction, analyze the amount of time each inmate who is eligible for parole on or before July 1, 2008, has served compared to the time served by offenders under Structured Sentencing for comparable crimes. The Commission shall determine if the person has served more time in custody than the person would have served if sentenced to the maximum sentence under the provisions of Article 81B of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes. The "maximum sentence", for the purposes of this section, shall be calculated as set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

**SECTION 17.11.(b)** For the purposes of this section, the following rules apply for the calculation of the maximum sentence:

- The offense upon which the person was convicted shall be classified as (1) the same felony class as the offense would have been classified if committed after the effective date of Article 81B of Chapter 15A of the General Statutes.
- (2) The minimum sentence shall be the maximum number of months in the presumptive range of minimum durations in Prior Record Level VI of G.S. 15A-1340.17(c) for the felony class determined under subdivision (1) of this subsection. The maximum sentence shall be calculated using G.S. 15A-1340.17(d), (e), or (e1).
- (3) If a person is serving sentences for two or more offenses that are concurrent in any respect, then the offense with the greater classification shall be used to determine a single maximum sentence for the concurrent offenses. The fact that the person has been convicted of multiple offenses may be considered by the Commission in making its determinations under subsection (a) of this section.

**SECTION 17.11.(c)** The Commission shall report to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by April 1, 2008. The report shall include the following: the class of the offense for which each parole-eligible inmate was convicted and whether an inmate had multiple criminal convictions. The Commission shall reinitiate the parole review process for each offender who has served more time than that person would have under Structured Sentencing as provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

The Commission shall also report on the number of parole-eligible inmates reconsidered in compliance with this section and the number who were actually paroled.

#### FEDERAL GRANT MATCHING FUNDS

**SECTION 17.12.** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143C-6-9, the Department of Correction may use up to the sum of one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) during the 2007-2008 fiscal year from funds available to the Department to provide the State match needed in order to receive federal grant funds. Prior to using funds for this purpose, the Department shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the grants to be matched using these funds.

#### REPORTS ON NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

SECTION 17.13.(a) Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Correction to support the programs of Harriet's House may be used for program operating costs, the purchase of equipment, and the rental of real property to serve women released from prison with children in their custody. Harriet's House shall report by February 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of State appropriations and on the effectiveness of the program, including information on the number of clients served, the number of clients who successfully complete the Harriet's House program, and the number of clients who have been rearrested within three years of successfully completing the program. The report shall provide financial and program data for the complete fiscal year prior to the year in which the report is submitted. The financial report shall identify all funding sources and amounts.

**SECTION 17.13.(b)** Summit House shall report by February 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of State appropriations and on the effectiveness of the program, including information on the number of clients served, the number of clients who have had their probation revoked, the number of clients who successfully complete the program while housed at Summit House, Inc., and the number of clients who have been rearrested within three years of successfully completing the program. The report shall provide financial and program data for the complete fiscal year prior to the year in which the report is submitted. The financial report shall identify all funding sources and amounts.

SECTION 17.13.(c) Women at Risk shall report by February 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of State funds and on the effectiveness of the program, including information on the number of clients served, the number of clients who have had their probation revoked, the number of clients who have successfully completed the program, and the number of clients who have been rearrested within three years of successfully completing the program. The report shall provide financial and program data for the complete fiscal year prior to the year in which the report is submitted. The financial report shall identify all funding sources and amounts.

**SECTION 17.13.(d)** Our Children's Place shall report by February 1, 2008, to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the status of the planning, design, and construction of Our Children's Place, the proposed program components and evaluation

measures, and on the projected number of inmates and their children to be served. The report shall also provide financial data, including the expenditure of State funds and all funding sources and amounts.

## REPORT ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM/USE OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS FOR SEX OFFENDERS

**SECTION 17.14.** The Department of Correction shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the following:

- (1) The number of sex offenders enrolled on active and passive GPS monitoring.
- (2) The caseloads of probation officers assigned to GPS-monitored sex offenders.
- (3) The number of violations.
- (4) The number of absconders.
- (5) The projected number of offenders to be enrolled by the end of the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the end of the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- (6) The total cost of the program, including a per-offender cost.

#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP**

**SECTION 17.15.(a)** Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 143B-273.15 specifying that grants to participating counties are for the full fiscal year and that unobligated funds are returned to the State-County Criminal Justice Partnership Account at the end of the grant period, the Department of Correction may reallocate unspent or unclaimed funds distributed to counties participating in the State-County Criminal Justice Partnership Program in an effort to maintain the level of services realized in previous fiscal years.

**SECTION 17.15.(b)** The Department of Correction may not deny funds to a county to support both a residential program and a day reporting center if the Department of Correction determines that the county has a demonstrated need and a fully developed plan for each type of sanction.

**SECTION 17.15.(c)** The Department of Correction shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the status of the State-County Criminal Justice Partnership Program. The report shall include the following information:

- (1) The amount of funds carried over from the prior fiscal year;
- (2) The dollar amount and purpose of grants awarded to counties as discretionary grants for the current fiscal year;
- (3) Any counties the Department anticipates will submit requests for new implementation grants;
- (4) An update on efforts to ensure that all counties make use of the electronic reporting system, including the number of counties submitting offender participation data via the system;
- (5) An analysis of offender participation data received, including data on each program's utilization and capacity;
- (6) An analysis of comparable programs prepared by the Division of Research and Planning, Department of Correction, including a

- comparison of programs in each program type on selected outcome measures developed by the Division of Community Corrections in consultation with the Fiscal Research Division and the Division of Research and Planning, and a summary of the reports prepared by county Criminal Justice Partnerships Advisory Boards;
- (7) An evaluation of whether each sentenced offender program meets program standards developed by the Division of Community Corrections in consultation with the Division of Research and Planning;
- (8) The number of community offenders and intermediate offenders served by each county program;
- (9) The amount of Criminal Justice Partnership funds spent on community offenders and intermediate offenders; and
- (10) A short description of the services and programs provided by each partnership, including who the service providers are and the amount of funds each service provider receives.

**SECTION 17.15.(d)** The Research and Planning Division of the Department of Correction shall review national best practice programs for community corrections and recommend whether the type of programs currently being funded should continue to be funded, and whether alternative programs should be funded if a county wants to expand sanction options. The Division shall report on its review by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees, the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee.

#### REPORT ON PROBATION AND PAROLE CASELOADS

**SECTION 17.16.(a)** The Department of Correction shall report by March 1 of each year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on caseload averages for probation and parole officers. The report shall include:

- (1) Data on current caseload averages for Probation Parole Officer I, Probation Parole Officer II, and Probation Parole Officer III positions;
- (2) An analysis of the optimal caseloads for these officer classifications;
- (3) An assessment of the role of surveillance officers;
- (4) The number and role of paraprofessionals in supervising low-risk caseloads;
- (5) An update on the Department's implementation of the recommendations contained in the National Institute of Correction study conducted on the Division of Community Corrections in 2004;
- (6) The selection of a risk assessment and the resulting distribution of offenders among risk levels; and
- (7) Any position reallocations in the previous 12 months, and the reasons for and fiscal impact of those reallocations.

**SECTION 17.16.(b)** The Department of Correction shall conduct a study of probation/parole officer workload at least biannually. The study shall include analysis of the type of offenders supervised, the distribution of the probation/parole officers' time by type of activity, the caseload carried by the officers, and comparisons to practices in other states. The study shall be used to determine whether the caseload goals established

by the Structured Sentencing Act are still appropriate, based on the nature of the offenders supervised and the time required to supervise those offenders.

**SECTION 17.16.(c)** The Department of Correction shall report the results of the study and recommendations for any adjustments to caseload goals to the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by January 1, 2009.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK PROGRAM**

SECTION 17.17. The Department of Correction shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by February 1 of each year on the integration of the Community Service Work Program into the Division of Community Corrections, including the Department's ability to monitor the collection of offender payments from unsupervised offenders sentenced to community service. The Department shall also report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by February 1 of each year on the average caseloads of Community Service Work Program coordinators, by district, division, and statewide. The report shall also include the money collected, the type and value of the work performed, and the number of offenders in the Community Service Work Program, by type of referral (i.e. parole, supervised probation, unsupervised probation or community punishment, DWI, or any other agency referrals).

## PART XVIII. DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

#### SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMITS

**SECTION 18.1.** Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in this act, not more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and not more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year may be used to administer the Support Our Students (S.O.S.) Program, to provide technical assistance to applicants and to local S.O.S. programs, and to evaluate the local S.O.S. programs. The Department may contract with appropriate public or nonprofit agencies to provide the technical assistance, including training and related services.

#### JCPC GRANT REPORTING AND CERTIFICATION

SECTION 18.2.(a) On or before April 1 each year, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall submit to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives a list of the recipients of the grants awarded, or preapproved for award, from funds appropriated to the Department for local Juvenile Crime Prevention Council grants. The list shall include for each recipient the amount of the grant awarded, the membership of the local committee or council administering the award funds on the local level, and a short description of the local services, programs, or projects that will receive funds. The list shall also identify any programs that received grant funds at one time but for which funding has been eliminated by the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. A written copy of the list and other information regarding the projects shall also be sent to the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly.

**SECTION 18.2.(b)** Each county in which local programs receive Juvenile Crime Prevention Council grant funds from the Department of Juvenile Justice and

Delinquency Prevention shall certify annually through its local council to the Department that funds received are not used to duplicate or supplant other programs within the county.

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#### **REPORTS ON CERTAIN PROGRAMS**

**SECTION 18.3.(a)** Project Challenge North Carolina, Inc., shall report to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety by April 1 each year on the operation and the effectiveness of its program in providing alternative dispositions and services to juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent or undisciplined. The report shall include information on:

> (1) The source of referrals for juveniles.

- The types of offenses committed by juveniles participating in the (2)
- The amount of time those juveniles spend in the program. (3)
- **(4)** The number of juveniles who successfully complete the program.
- The number of juveniles who commit additional offenses after (5) completing the program.
- The program's budget and expenditures, including all funding sources.

**SECTION 18.3.(b)** The Juvenile Assessment Center shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the effectiveness of the Center by April 1 each year. The report shall include information on the number of juveniles served and an evaluation of the effectiveness of juvenile assessment plans and services provided as a result of these plans. In addition, the report shall include information on the Center's budget and expenditures, including all funding sources.

**SECTION 18.3.(c)** Communities in Schools shall report to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by April 1 each year on the operation and effectiveness of its program. The report shall include information on:

- The number of children served. (1)
- The number of volunteers used. (2)
- The impact on children who have received services from Communities (3) in Schools, including graduation rates, dropout rates, suspension and expulsion rates, and involvement with the juvenile justice system.
- (4) The program's budget and expenditures, including all funding sources.

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#### ANNUAL EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

**SECTION 18.4.** The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall conduct an evaluation of the Eckerd and Camp Woodson wilderness camp programs, the teen court programs, the program that grants funds to the local organizations of the Boys and Girls Clubs established pursuant to Section 21.10 of S.L. 1999-237, the Support Our Students Program, the Governor's One-on-One Programs, and multipurpose group homes. The teen court report shall include statistical information on the number of juveniles served, the number and type of offenses considered by teen courts, referral sources for teen courts, and the number of juveniles that become court-involved after participation in teen courts. The report on the Boys and Girls Clubs program shall include information on:

- (1) The expenditure of State appropriations on the program;
- (2) The operations and the effectiveness of the program; and
- (3) The number of juveniles served under the program.

In conducting the evaluation of each of these programs, the Department shall consider whether participation in each program results in a reduction of court involvement among juveniles. The Department shall also identify whether the programs are achieving the goals and objectives of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, S.L. 1998-202. The Department shall report the results of the evaluation to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees and the Chairs of the Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees by March 1 of each year.

#### STATE FUNDS MAY BE USED AS FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS

SECTION 18.5. Funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the 2007-2008 fiscal year may be used as matching funds for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants. If North Carolina receives Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants, or a notice of funds to be awarded, the Office of State Budget and Management and the Governor's Crime Commission shall consult with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention regarding the criteria for awarding federal funds. The Office of State Budget and Management, the Governor's Crime Commission, and the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall report to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to allocation of the federal funds. The report shall identify the amount of funds to be received for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the amount of funds anticipated for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, and the allocation of funds by program and purpose.

## REPORTING ON TREATMENT STAFFING MODEL AT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

SECTION 18.6. The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall continue quarterly reporting during the 2007-2008 fiscal year to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the implementation of the treatment staffing model at Samarkand and Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Centers, including the latest results of the evaluation of the pilot treatment staffing models at the Centers and the progress in implementing the model at other youth development centers. In the April 1, 2008 report, the Department shall include a recommendation on whether the staffing and budget for youth development centers should be maintained at the recommended 2007-2008 levels or be modified to reflect the results of the pilot treatment programs.

## PROGRESS REPORTS ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER CAPITAL PROJECTS

**SECTION 18.7.(a)** The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall report quarterly during the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, beginning October 1, 2007, to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and to the Joint Legislative

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Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee on the Department's progress in the planning, design, and construction of new youth development centers. The report shall include:

- An overall project schedule for each new youth development center (1) showing the original estimated date for construction completion and the original estimated date for occupancy by juvenile offenders, compared to the latest projected dates.
- An explanation of significant delays in the schedule or any potential (2) cost increase.

The Office of State Construction and the Capital Improvement Section of the Office of State Budget and Management shall assist the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the preparation of the report required by this section.

**SECTION 18.7.(b)** The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Eckerd Family Youth Alternatives, Inc., shall report to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety and to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee by November 1, 2007, on the nature, scope, and cost of the Eckerd Family Focus on Rehabilitative Treatment (EFFORT) project, which would be located at the Samarkand Youth Development Center and would supplement the traditional youth development centers. The report shall state whether funds from the Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account established in G.S. 143C-4-3 have been approved by the Office of State Budget and Management for this project.

### STUDY OF STATE DETENTION CENTERS

SECTION 18.8. The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall study the nine juvenile detention centers that are operated by the State. For each of the facilities, the review shall include:

- Recent admission trends and projections of future population. (1)
- The offense history and assessed needs of the population. (2)
- Whether staffing levels are appropriate for the number and types of (3) offenders housed in the facility.
- Whether the center has adequate housing capacity. (4)
- (5) Determine the repair and renovation needs and estimate the cost of any repairs or renovations.
- The estimated cost to plan, design, and construct new detention (6) centers, if appropriate.
- Information on security and control of the facility, including assaults, (7) escapes, and infractions.

The Department shall report its findings to the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control, and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee and to the Chairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety no later than March 1, 2008.

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS

**SECTION 18.9.** Funds appropriated to the North Carolina Community College Foundation during the 2003-2004 fiscal year in S.L. 2003-284 for community college scholarships for students who have completed their commitment to a Youth Development Center and who have obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent are hereby transferred to the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention shall administer the community college scholarship program described in this section.

### PART XIX. DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

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## REDESIGNATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S ADVOCACY COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**SECTION 19.1.(a)** Part 14A of Article 9 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is repealed.

**SECTION 19.1.(b)** Not later than May 1, 2008, the Department of Administration and the Office of State Personnel shall report to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government on the placement or compensation of all State employees affected by the redesignation of the Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities.

### SEXUAL ASSAULT/RAPE CRISIS CENTER FUNDING

**SECTION 19.2.(a)** The Department of Administration, the Council for Women, and the Domestic Violence Commission shall distribute funds to the North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault and to rape crisis centers. To receive funds, rape crisis centers shall meet the following criteria:

- (1) Operate as a private, nonprofit organization or a local unit of government applying for a rape crisis center that has provided basic services, as defined by the Council for Women and the Domestic Violence Commission, for a one-year period before the date of application;
- (2) Have a mission statement that clearly specifies rape crisis services are provided;
- (3) Act in support of victims of rape or sexual assault by providing assistance to ensure victims' interests are represented in law enforcement and legal proceedings and support and referral services are provided in medical and community settings; and
- (4) Provide a 24-hour crisis hotline.

**SECTION 19.2.(b)** Grant funds allocated from the General Fund to the Department of Administration, the Council for Women and the Domestic Violence Commission for rape crisis shall be distributed in two equal shares. The North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault and rape crisis centers whose services are confined to rape crisis and sexual assault services shall be allocated the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in each year of the 2007-2009 biennium. Organizations that contain rape crisis services in addition to domestic violence services or other support services shall receive an equal share of remaining funds in each year of the 2007-2009 biennium.

### PART XX. OFFICE OF THE STATE CONTROLLER

### **OVERPAYMENTS AUDIT**

**SECTION 20.1.(a)** During the 2007-2009 biennium, receipts generated by the collection of inadvertent overpayments by State agencies to vendors as a result of pricing errors, neglected rebates and discounts, miscalculated freight charges, unclaimed refunds, erroneously paid excise taxes, and related errors as required by G.S. 147-86.22(c) are to be deposited in the Special Reserve Account 24172.

**SECTION 20.1.(b)** For the 2007-2009 biennium, five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) of the funds transferred from the Special Reserve Account 24172

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shall be used by the Office of the State Controller for data processing, debt collection, or e-commerce costs.

**SECTION 20.1.(c)** All funds available in the Special Reserve Account 24172 on July 1 of each year of the 2007-2009 biennium are transferred to the General Fund on that date.

**SECTION 20.1.(d)** Any unobligated funds in the Special Reserve Account 24172 that are realized above the allowance in subsection (b) of this section are subject to appropriation by the General Assembly in the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly. **SECTION 20.1.(e)** The State Controller shall report quarterly to the Joint

 **SECTION 20.1.(e)** The State Controller shall report quarterly to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division on the revenue deposited into the Special Reserve Account 24172 and the disbursement of that revenue.

### PART XXI. DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

### GRASSROOTS ARTS PROGRAM FUNDING

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SECTION 21.1.(a) G.S. 143B-122 reads as rewritten:

"§ 143B-122. Distribution of funds.

Funds Of the funds available under the Grassroots Arts Program Program, twenty percent (20%) of the total shall be distributed among the counties equally, and the remaining eighty percent (80%) shall be distributed among the counties on a per capita basis."

**SECTION 21.1.(b)** Any funds distributed by the Department of Cultural Resources under the Grassroots Arts Program for the 2000-2001 through 2006-2007 fiscal years are hereby ratified, validated, and confirmed.

### PART XXII. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

# HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY SHALL CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE NORTH CAROLINA HOME PROTECTION PILOT PROGRAM AND LOAN FUND

**SECTION 22.1.(a)** The North Carolina Housing Finance Agency shall continue, develop, implement, and administer a pilot program to assist North Carolina workers who have lost jobs as a result of changing economic conditions in North Carolina when the workers are in need of assistance to avoid losing their homes to foreclosure. The Agency shall do all of the following:

(1) Develop and administer the North Carolina Home Protection Pilot Program and Loan Fund to ensure that workers in the counties selected for the Pilot have assistance to avoid losing their homes to foreclosure. The Program shall include all counties that had greater than seven percent (7%) average unemployment in the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

(2) Make loans secured by liens on residential real property located in North Carolina to property owners who are eligible for those loans.

Obeyclop and administer procedures by which property owners at risk of being foreclosed upon may qualify for assistance.

(4) Designate, approve, and fund nonprofit counseling agencies in counties participating in the Program to be available to assist the Agency in implementing the provisions of this section, and to provide services such as direct mortgagee negotiations on behalf of unemployed workers, and to process loan applications for the Agency.

- (5) Develop and fund enhanced methods by which workers may be notified of foreclosure mitigation services, may easily contact local nonprofit counseling agencies, and may apply for loans from the Agency.
- (6) No later than April 1, 2008, report to the Chairs of the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the effectiveness of the Program in accomplishing its purposes, and provide any other information the Agency determines is pertinent or that the General Assembly requests.

**SECTION 22.1.(b)** As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) Agency. The North Carolina Housing Finance Agency.
- (2) Counseling agency. A nonprofit counseling agency located in North Carolina that is approved by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency.
- (3) Mortgage. An obligation evidenced by a security document and secured by a lien upon real property located within North Carolina, including a deed of trust and land sale agreement. Mortgage also means an obligation evidenced by a security lien on real property upon which an owner-occupied mobile home is located.
- (4) Mortgagee. The owner of a beneficial interest in a mortgage loan, the servicer for the owner of a beneficial interest in a mortgage loan, or the trustee for a securitized trust that holds title to a beneficial interest in a mortgage loan.

**SECTION 22.1.(c)** Notwithstanding Chapters 23, 24, and 45 of the General Statutes or any other provision of law, upon the proper filing of an application for loan assistance by a mortgagor under this section, a mortgagee shall not do the following:

- (1) Accelerate the maturity of any mortgage obligation covered under this section.
- (2) Commence or continue any legal action, including mortgage foreclosure pursuant to Chapter 45 of the General Statutes, to recover the mortgage obligation.
- (3) Take possession of any security of the mortgage obligation.
- (4) Procure or receive a deed in lieu of foreclosure.
- (5) Enter judgment by confession pursuant to a note accompanying a mortgage.
- (6) Proceed to enforce the mortgage obligation pursuant to applicable rules of civil procedure for a period of 120 days following the date of the mortgagor's properly filed application.

The provisions of this section shall not apply if the mortgagee receives notice from the Agency that the mortgagor's application has been denied.

If a mortgagee acts as proscribed in subdivisions (1) through (6) of this subsection, a mortgagor shall be entitled to injunctive relief without the necessity of providing a bond. This relief shall be in addition to any defenses available under G.S. 45-21.16(d) and any other remedies at law or equity.

Upon the Agency's receipt of a properly filed mortgagor's application for loan assistance, the Agency shall mail notice of the application to the mortgagor's mortgagee within five business days of the Agency's receipt of the application. The Agency shall also mail notice of the acceptance or denial of the mortgagor's application to the mortgagee within five days of the Agency's determination. Notice shall be deemed sufficient if sent to the last known address of the mortgagee.

**SECTION 22.1.(d)** Rule Making. – Solely with respect to the adoption of procedures for the pilot program by which property owners at risk of being foreclosed upon may qualify for assistance, the Agency is exempt from the requirements of Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. Prior to adoption or amendment of procedures, the Agency shall:

- (1) Publish the proposed procedures in the North Carolina Register at least 30 days prior to the adoption of the final procedures.
- (2) Accept oral and written comments on the proposed procedures.
- (3) Hold at least one public hearing on the proposed procedures.

**SECTION 22.1.(e)** Any funds appropriated under Section 20A.1 of S.L. 2004-124 that have not been encumbered shall be used for the expansion of the program to additional counties as provided by this section.

**SECTION 22.1.(f)** This section applies only to the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

### PART XXIII. OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

### MILITARY MORALE, RECREATION, AND WELFARE FUNDS

**SECTION 23.1.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to a Reserve for the Military Morale, Recreation, and Welfare Fund in the Office of State Budget and Management the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

**SECTION 23.1.(b)** The Office of State Budget and Management shall distribute for the purposes described in this section the amount appropriated by subsection (a) of this section. That amount shall be distributed to each military installation on a per capita basis.

**SECTION 23.1.(c)** Funds distributed to a military installation exchange under this section must be deposited in the Military Morale, Recreation, and Welfare Fund for that installation and used only for community services and other expenditures to improve quality of life programs for military members and their families in North Carolina.

### LICENSING BOARD REPORTING REQUIREMENT

**SECTION 23.2.** G.S. 93B-2(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Each occupational licensing board shall file with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee a financial report that includes the source and amount of all funds credited to the occupational licensing board and the purpose and amount of all funds disbursed by the occupational licensing board during the previous 12-month period."

## STUDY OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM IN STATE AGENCIES

**SECTION 23.3.** The Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Office of State Personnel and the Office of State Controller, shall conduct a study of the Workers' Compensation Program in State agencies and institutions to determine if the third-party administration of the program continues to be the most effective mode of administration; to determine if the current method of funding is still the most effective method; to determine whether excess coverage policies are needed; and to identify any other operational inefficiencies in program operations that might exist. The Office of State Budget and Management shall submit a final report outlining the related findings and recommendations for improvements to the Joint

Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division by March 1, 2008.

### PART XXIV. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

### WHITE GOODS DISPOSAL TAX PROGRAM

**SECTION 24.1.** G.S. 105-187.24 reads as rewritten:

### "§ 105-187.24 Use of tax proceeds.

The Secretary shall distribute the taxes collected under this Article, less the Department of Revenue's allowance for administrative expenses, in accordance with this section. The Secretary may retain the Department's cost of collection, not to exceed two hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$225,000) four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$425,000) a year, as reimbursement to the Department.

Each quarter, the Secretary shall credit eight percent (8%) of the net tax proceeds to the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and shall credit twenty percent (20%) of the net tax proceeds to the White Goods Management Account. The Secretary shall distribute the remaining seventy-two percent (72%) of the net tax proceeds among the counties on a per capita basis according to the most recent annual population estimates certified to the Secretary by the State Budget Officer. The Department shall not distribute the tax proceeds to a county when notified not to do so by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources under G.S. 130A-309.87. If a county is not entitled to a distribution, the proceeds allocated for that county will be credited to the White Goods Management Account.

A county may use funds distributed to it under this section only as provided in G.S. 130A-309.82. A county that receives funds under this section and that has an interlocal agreement with another unit of local government under which the other unit provides for the disposal of solid waste for the county must transfer the amount received under this section to that other unit. A unit to which funds are transferred is subject to the same restrictions on use of the funds as the county."

### SCRAP TIRE DISPOSAL TAX PROGRAM

**SECTION 24.2.** G.S. 105-187.19(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Secretary shall distribute the taxes collected under this Article, less the allowance to the Department of Revenue for administrative expenses, in accordance with this section. The Secretary may retain the cost of collection by the Department, not to exceed two hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$225,000) four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$425,000) a year, as reimbursement to the Department."

### PART XXV. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

### STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS MOE AND HAVA FUND USE

**SECTION 25.1.(a)** The State Board of Elections shall use funds in the Maintenance of Effort Reserve as follows:

- (1) \$1,440,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 for ballot printing for the 2008 first primary.
- (2) \$840,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 for ballot printing for the 2008 second primary if a federal election is on the ballot.
- (3) \$1,260,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2008-2009 for ballot printing for the 2008 general election.
- (4) \$1,500,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 and \$500,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2008-2009 to rebuild the State Elections

- Information Management System (SEIMS). (See 2007 House Bill 1267.)
- (5) \$100,000 recurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 for the required training for all county boards of elections staff on voting equipment operating procedures.
- (6) \$427,500 recurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 to centralize ballot coding in North Carolina to provide oversight, ensure accuracy of election preparation, and reduce errors with ballot styles.
- (7) \$150,000 recurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 to hire 20 additional election technicians across the State to deal with technical problems that arise on a 2008 Election Day in which a federal election is on the ballot.

**SECTION 25.1.(b)** The State Board of Elections shall use funds in the Election Fund under G.S. 163-82.28 (HAVA funds) as follows:

- (1) \$2,525,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 and \$2,525,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2008-2009 for maintenance performed on voting equipment.
- (2) \$750,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2007-2008 and \$1,750,000 nonrecurring in fiscal year 2008-2009 provided for additional one-stop absentee voting (early voting) sites for the 2008 first primary and general election if a federal election is on the ballot.

### PART XXVI. DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE TREASURER

# FUNDS FOR AUDITING STATE EMPLOYEE SERVICE RECORDS; NO CONTRACTING FOR CERTAIN FUNCTIONS; PROHIBITION ON USE OF LAPSED SALARIES

**SECTION 26.1.(a)** The funds appropriated in this act to the Department of State Treasurer, Retirement Systems Division, for the sum of one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be used to contract for the auditing of State employee service records. The Retirement Systems Division shall submit an interim report on the number of State employee service records verified to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division no later than April 30, 2008.

**SECTION 26.1.(b)** The Department of State Treasurer, Retirement Systems Division, shall report quarterly beginning October 31, 2007, on all contracts by funding sources and on the use of lapsed salary savings to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Chairs of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Senate Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology and to the Fiscal Research Division.

### PART XXVII. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# ONE-STOP SHOPS FOR DRIVERS LICENSES AND REGISTRATION PLATES

**SECTION 27.1.** The Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles, is prohibited from opening drivers license issuance and vehicle registration issuance and renewal One-Stop Shops until the General Assembly has considered and appropriated funds for the purpose of One-Stop Shops.

The Department of Transportation shall develop a business plan that thoroughly outlines the operational plans of a combined function center, a detailed

budget for each proposed location, and any identified savings gleaned from the combined services. In addition, the Division of Motor Vehicles shall conduct an analysis on the anticipated number of transactions and the impact to independent tag agents in those areas. The report is due to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee, the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for Transportation, and the Fiscal Research Division by March 15, 2008.

## CASH FLOW HIGHWAY FUNDS AND HIGHWAY TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS

**SECTION 27.2.(a)** The General Assembly authorizes and certifies anticipated revenues of the Highway Fund as follows:

For Fiscal Year 2009-2010 \$1,846.0 million For Fiscal Year 2010-2011 \$1,857.9 million For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 \$1,869.0 million For Fiscal Year 2012-2013 \$1,873.9 million

**SECTION 27.2.(b)** The General Assembly authorizes and certifies anticipated revenues of the Highway Trust Fund as follows:

For Fiscal Year 2009-2010 \$1,174.4 million For Fiscal Year 2010-2011 \$1,204.9 million For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 \$1,236.4 million For Fiscal Year 2012-2013 \$1,276.1 million

## FUNDS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SPOT SAFETY, AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROJECTS

SECTION 27.3. Of the funds appropriated by this act to the Department of Transportation in fiscal year 2007-2008, fourteen million dollars (\$14,000,000) shall be allocated equally among the 14 Highway Divisions for economic development transportation projects recommended by the member of the Board of Transportation representing the Division in which the project is to be constructed in consultation with the Division Engineer and approved by the Board of Transportation. Funds in each Division not needed for economic development projects shall be used on spot safety needs to enhance safety, reduce congestion, improve traffic flow, reduce accidents, and for system preservation. Funds not identified for economic development and spot safety projects prior to December 31, 2007, shall be used on Transportation Improvement Program projects. The Secretary of Transportation shall not prevent or delay the implementation of any projects approved by the Board of Transportation pursuant to this section.

# CONSOLIDATION OF RURAL FUNDING PROGRAMS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

**SECTION 27.4.** The Department of Transportation, Public Transportation Division, may consolidate its rural funding programs for vehicles, technology, and facilities into one large capital program. The Division shall have the flexibility to transfer funding from the consolidated capital program to the operating programs, based on the ability to leverage additional federal funds to meet the capital needs of rural transportation systems. The Department shall report on the use of funds and effectiveness of the provisions of this section to the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and the Fiscal Research Division by March 15, 2008.

### SMALL CONSTRUCTION AND CONTINGENCY FUNDS

SECTION 27.5. Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Transportation:

(1) Twenty-one million dollars (\$21,000,000) shall be allocated in each

- fiscal year for small construction projects recommended by the member of the Board of Transportation representing the Division in which the project is to be constructed in consultation with the Division Engineer and approved by the Board of Transportation. These funds shall be allocated equally in each fiscal year of the biennium among the 14 Highway Divisions for small construction projects.
- (2) Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) in fiscal year 2007-2008 and fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) in fiscal year 2008-2009 shall be used statewide for rural or small urban highway improvements and related transportation enhancements to public roads and public facilities, industrial access roads, and spot safety projects, including pedestrian walkways that enhance highway safety. Projects funded pursuant to this subdivision shall be approved by the Secretary of Transportation.

None of these funds used for rural secondary road construction are subject to the county allocation formulas in G.S. 136-44.5(b) and (c).

These funds are not subject to G.S. 136-44.7.

The Department of Transportation shall report to the members of the General Assembly on projects funded pursuant to this section in each member's district prior to the Board of Transportation's action. The Department shall make a quarterly comprehensive report on the use of these funds to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division.

### FUNDS FOR UNSAFE OR OBSOLETE FIELD FACILITIES

**SECTION 27.6.** Of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Transportation, the Department may use funds not to exceed seventy-five hundredths of one percent (.75%) for maintenance and construction programs for major repair, renovation, or replacement of its field facilities that fail to meet safety standards or that are obsolete for current or future use. Prior to expending these funds, the Department shall submit its proposed budget for these expenditures to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee each year.

### MODIFY GLOBAL TRANSPARK DEBT

**SECTION 27.7.** G.S. 147-69.2(b)(11), as amended by Section 7 of S.L. 2005-144, Section 2 of S.L. 2005-201, and Section 28.17 of S.L. 2005-276 reads as rewritten:

- "(b) It shall be the duty of the State Treasurer to invest the cash of the funds enumerated in subsection (a) of this section in excess of the amount required to meet the current needs and demands on such funds, selecting from among the following:
  - (11) With respect to assets of the Escheat Fund, obligations of the North Carolina Global TransPark Authority authorized by G.S. 63A-4(a)(22), not to exceed twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), that have a final maturity not later than October 1, 2007.2009. The obligations shall bear interest at the rate set by the State Treasurer. No commitment to purchase obligations may be made pursuant to this

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subdivision after September 1, 1993, and no obligations may be purchased after September 1, 1994. In the event of a loss to the Escheat Fund by reason of an investment made pursuant to this subdivision, it is the intention of the General Assembly to hold the Escheat Fund harmless from the loss by appropriating to the Escheat Fund funds equivalent to the loss.

If any part of the property owned by the North Carolina Global TransPark Authority now or in the future is divested, proceeds of the divestment shall be used to fulfill any unmet obligations on an investment made pursuant to this subdivision.

#### DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES REPORT ON REAL ID **ACT COMPLIANCE**

**SECTION 27.8.** The Department of Transportation shall report on the expenditure plan for the use of the reserved funds appropriated for the Secure ID and Card Production System. The plan shall include the projected costs associated with the federal government's requirements for complying with P.L. 109-13, the REAL ID Act of 2005. The Department shall report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee and the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for Transportation by May 1, 2008.

#### TRANSPORTATION **DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY PILOT PROGRAMS**

**SECTION 27.9.(a)** The Department of Transportation may continue the productivity pilot programs in the road oil and bridge inspection units implemented under Section 29.3 of S.L. 2003-284. The Department of Transportation may expend up to one-half of one percent (.50%) of the budget allocation for these programs for employee incentive payments to maintain the increased efficiency and productivity under these programs.

**SECTION 27.9.(b)** The Department of Transportation may continue any additional pilot programs authorized by Section 28.9(b) of S.L. 2005-276 to test incentive pay for employees as a means of increasing and maintaining efficiency and productivity.

Up to one-half of one percent (.50%) of the budget allocation for these programs may be used to provide employee incentive payments.

Incentive payments shall be based on quantifiable measures and production schedules determined prior to the implementation of the pilot programs.

### STUDY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S BUDGET PROCESS

**SECTION 27.10.(a)** The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee may study the Department of Transportation's budgeting process. If the Committee undertakes the study of issues related to the Department of Transportation's budgeting process, the Committee shall study all issues related to how the Department prepares its budget, how the Department differentiates between its issued and unused budget authority and its used and unused cash availability for programs administered by the Department, the role of encumbered accounts in the budget process, the cash management system currently in place, and any other issues the Committee deems proper related to the administration of appropriations to the Department.

**SECTION 27.10.(b)** The Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee shall report its findings and recommendations, including all legislative proposals, to the 2008 Regular Session of the 2007 General Assembly by April 1, 2008.

DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES LICENSE PLATE RECALL PROGRAM

**SECTION 27.11.(a)** Of the funds appropriated from the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation under this act, the Division of Motor Vehicles may expend the sum of one hundred eighty-three thousand one hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$183,199) for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the sum of ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$99,000) for fiscal year 2008-2009 to recall vehicle license plates. The Division shall develop a schedule by which approximately 94,000 of the oldest license plates are recalled annually for the next five years. Each fiscal year after 2008-2009, the General Assembly intends to appropriate from the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation the sum of ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$99,000) in recurring funds for the Division to implement a continuous license plate recall program.

**SECTION 27.11.(b)** The Division shall report to the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation and the Fiscal Research Division no later than May 1, 2008, on the progress of the vehicle license plate recall schedule and the implementation of the continuous license plate recall program.

# PHASE OUT TRANSFERS FROM THE HIGHWAY FUND AND THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES

**SECTION 27.12.** It is the intent of the General Assembly to phase out funds transfers from the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund and to other State agencies over a five-year period of time. The funds transfers from the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund and to other State agencies would be reduced to fifty percent (50%) of the current funds transfers, effective July 1, 2009. The funds transfers from the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund and other State agencies would be reduced an additional fifty percent (50%) of the amount being transferred on June 30, 2011, effective July 1, 2011. The funds transfers from the Highway Fund and the Highway Trust Fund to the General Fund and other State agencies would be eliminated completely, effective July 1, 2013.

### PART XXIII SALARIES AND BENEFITS

### GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF STATE/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.1.(a)** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 147-11(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The salary of the Governor shall be one hundred thirty thousand six hundred twenty nine dollars (\$130,629) one hundred thirty-six thousand one hundred eight-one dollars (\$136,181) annually, payable monthly."

**SECTION 28.1.(b)** Effective July 1, 2007, the annual salaries for the members of the Council of State, payable monthly, for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years are:

Council of State	Annual Salary
Lieutenant Governor	\$120,189
Attorney General	120,189
Secretary of State	120,189

General Assembly of North Carolina		Session 2007	
1	State Treasurer	120,189	
2	State Auditor	120,189	
3	Superintendent of Public Instruction	120,189	
4	Agriculture Commissioner	120,189	
5	Insurance Commissioner	120,189	
6	Labor Commissioner	120,189	
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### NONELECTED DEPARTMENT HEAD/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.2.** In accordance with G.S. 143B-9, the maximum annual salaries, payable monthly, for the nonelected heads of the principal State departments for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years are:

13	Nonelected Department Heads	Annual Salary
14	Secretary of Administration	\$117,424
15	Secretary of Correction	117,424
16	Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety	117,424
17	Secretary of Cultural Resources	117,424
18	Secretary of Commerce	117,424
19	Secretary of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources	117,424
20	Secretary of Health and Human Services	117,424
21	Secretary of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	117,424
22	Secretary of Revenue	117,424
23	Secretary of Transportation	117,424

### CERTAIN EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.3.** The annual salaries, payable monthly, for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years for the following executive branch officials are:

29	Executive Branch Officials A	nnual Salary
30	Chairman, Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission \$	106,877
31	State Controller	149,575
32	Commissioner of Motor Vehicles	106,877
33	Commissioner of Banks	120,189
34	Chairman, Employment Security Commission	133,161
35	State Personnel Director	117,424
36	Chairman, Parole Commission	97,592
37	Members of the Parole Commission	45,050
38	Chairman, Utilities Commission	133,852
39	Members of the Utilities Commission	120,189
40	Executive Director, Agency for Public Telecommunications	90,100
41	Director, Museum of Art	109,515
42	Executive Director, North Carolina Agricultural Finance Authority	104,030
43	State Chief Information Officer	149,484

### JUDICIAL BRANCH OFFICIALS/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.4.(a)** The annual salaries, payable monthly, for specified judicial branch officials for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 fiscal years are:

Judicial Branch Officials	Annual Salary
Chief Justice, Supreme Court	\$ 137,160
Associate Justice, Supreme Court	133,576

(	General Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007	
1	Chief Judge, Court of Appeals	130,236	
2	Judge, Court of Appeals	128,011	
3	Judge, Senior Regular Resident Superior Court	124,532	
4	Judge, Superior Court	121,053	
5	Chief Judge, District Court	109,923	
6	Judge, District Court	106,445	
7	Administrative Officer of the Courts	123,643	
8	Assistant Administrative Officer of the Courts	112,936	

**SECTION 28.4.(b)** The district attorney or public defender of a judicial district, with the approval of the Administrative Officer of the Courts or the Commission on Indigent Defense Services, respectively, shall set the salaries of assistant district attorneys or assistant public defenders, respectively, in that district such that the average salaries of assistant district attorneys or assistant public defenders in that district do not exceed sixty-nine thousand two hundred thirteen dollars (\$69,213) and the minimum salary of any assistant district attorney or assistant public defender is at least thirty-six thousand one hundred sixty-eight dollars (\$36,168) effective July 1, 2007.

**SECTION 28.4.(c)** Effective July 1, 2007, the annual salaries of permanent, full-time employees of the Judicial Department whose salaries are not itemized in this act shall be increased by four and one-quarter percent (4.25%).

**SECTION 28.4.(d)** Effective July 1, 2007, the annual salaries of permanent, part-time employees of the Judicial Department whose salaries are not itemized in this act shall be increased by four and one-quarter percent (4.25%).

### **CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT/SALARY INCREASES**

**SECTION 28.5.** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 7A-101(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The clerk of superior court is a full-time employee of the State and shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments, based on the population of the county as determined in subsection (a1) of this section, according to the following schedule:

Population	Annual Salary
Less than 100,000	<del>\$77,112</del> <u>\$80,389</u>
100,000 to 149,999	<del>86,532</del> 90,210
150,000 to 249,999	$95,954 \ 100,032$
250,000 and above	<del>105,378.</del> 109,857.

The salary schedule in this subsection is intended to represent the following approximate percentage of the salary of a chief district court judge:

Population Population	Annual Salary
Less than 100,000	<del>73%</del>
100,000 to 149,999	<del>82%</del>
150,000 to 249,999	<del>91%</del>
250,000 and above	100%

When a county changes from one population group to another, the salary of the clerk shall be changed, on July 1 of the fiscal year for which the change is reported, to the salary appropriate for the new population group, except that the salary of an incumbent clerk shall not be decreased by any change in population group during his continuance in office."

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### ASSISTANT AND DEPUTY CLERKS OF COURT/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.6.** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 7A-102(c1) reads as rewritten:

"(c1) A full-time assistant clerk or a full-time deputy clerk, and up to one full-time deputy clerk serving as head bookkeeper per county, shall be paid an annual salary subject to the following minimum and maximum rates:

Assistant Clerks and Head Bookkeeper
Minimum \$29,925 \frac{\\$31,197}{51,251} 53,429

Deputy Clerks Annual Salary
Minimum \$\frac{\$25,758}{26,853}\$
Maximum \$\frac{39,862}{41,556."}

### **MAGISTRATES' SALARY INCREASES**

**SECTION 28.7.(a)** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 7A-171.1(a) reads as rewritten:

- "(a) The Administrative Officer of the Courts, after consultation with the chief district judge and pursuant to the following provisions, shall set an annual salary for each magistrate.
  - (1) A full-time magistrate shall be paid the annual salary indicated in the table set out in this subdivision. A full-time magistrate is a magistrate who is assigned to work an average of not less than 40 hours a week during the term of office. The Administrative Officer of the Courts shall designate whether a magistrate is full-time. Initial appointment shall be at the entry rate. A magistrate's salary shall increase to the next step every two years on the anniversary of the date the magistrate was originally appointed for increases to Steps 1 through 3, and every four years on the anniversary of the date the magistrate was originally appointed for increases to Steps 4 through 6.

Table of Salaries of Full-Time Magistrates

	10010 01 20101102 01 1 011 111110 1:108101000
Step Level	Annual Salary
Entry Rate	\$30,320\$31,609
Step 1	<del>33,101</del> 34,508
Step 2	$\frac{36,126}{37,661}$
Step 3	$\frac{39,429}{41,105}$
Step 4	$43,046 \overline{44,875}$
Step 5	$47,122 \overline{49,125}$
Step 6	<del>51,692.</del> <u>53,889.</u>
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(2) A part-time magistrate is a magistrate who is assigned to work an average of less than 40 hours of work a week during the term, except that no magistrate shall be assigned an average of less than 10 hours of work a week during the term. A part-time magistrate is included, in accordance with G.S. 7A-170, under the provisions of G.S. 135-1(10) and G.S. 135-40.2(a). The Administrative Officer of the Courts designates whether a magistrate is a part-time magistrate. A part-time magistrate shall receive an annual salary based on the following formula: The average number of hours a week that a part-time magistrate is assigned work during the term shall be multiplied by the annual salary payable to a full-time magistrate who has the same number of years of service prior to the beginning of that term as does the part-time magistrate and the product of that multiplication shall be

divided by the number 40. The quotient shall be the annual salary payable to that part-time magistrate.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a magistrate who is licensed to practice law in North Carolina or any other state shall receive the annual salary provided in the Table in subdivision (1) of this subsection for Step 4."

**SECTION 28.7.(b)** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 7A-171.1(a1)(1) reads as rewritten:

- "(a1) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the following salary provisions apply to individuals who were serving as magistrates on June 30, 1994:
  - The salaries of magistrates who on June 30, 1994, were paid at a salary level of less than five years of service under the table in effect that date shall be as follows:

Less than 1 year of service \$24,450 \\$25,489 1 or more but less than 3 years of service 25,572 \\ 26,659 3 or more but less than 5 years of service 27,831. 29,014.

Upon completion of five years of service, those magistrates shall receive the salary set as the Entry Rate in the table in subsection (a)."

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRINCIPAL CLERKS/ SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.8.** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 120-37(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) The principal clerks shall be full-time officers. Each principal clerk shall be entitled to other benefits available to permanent legislative employees and shall be paid an annual salary of ninety seven thousand four hundred two dollars (\$97,402) one hundred one thousand five hundred forty-two dollars (\$101,542) payable monthly. Each principal clerk shall also receive such additional compensation as approved by the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, respectively, for additional employment duties beyond those provided by the rules of their House. The Legislative Services Commission shall review the salary of the principal clerks prior to submission of the proposed operating budget of the General Assembly to the Governor and shall make appropriate recommendations for changes in those salaries. Any changes enacted by the General Assembly shall be by amendment to this paragraph."

### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS AND READING CLERKS/ SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.9.** Effective July 1, 2007, G.S. 120-37(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) The sergeant-at-arms and the reading clerk in each house shall be paid a salary of three hundred forty five dollars (\$345.00) three hundred sixty dollars (\$360.00) per week plus subsistence at the same daily rate provided for members of the General Assembly, plus mileage at the rate provided for members of the General Assembly for one round trip only from their homes to Raleigh and return. The sergeants-at-arms shall serve during sessions of the General Assembly and at such time prior to the convening of, and subsequent to adjournment or recess of, sessions as may be authorized by the Legislative Services Commission. The reading clerks shall serve during sessions only."

### LEGISLATIVE EMPLOYEES/ SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.10.** Effective July 1, 2007, the Legislative Services Officer shall increase the salaries of nonelected employees of the General Assembly in effect

for fiscal year 2006-2007 by four and one-quarter percent (4.25%). Nothing in this act limits any of the provisions of G.S. 120-32.

### COMMUNITY COLLEGES PERSONNEL/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.11.(a)** The Director of the Budget shall transfer from the Reserve for Compensation Increases, created in this act for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, funds to the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office necessary to provide an annual salary increase of four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions, commencing July 1, 2007, for all community college employees supported by State funds.

**SECTION 28.11.(b)** The Director of the Budget shall transfer from the Reserve for Compensation Increases, created in this act for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, funds to the North Carolina Community Colleges System Office necessary to provide an additional annual salary increase of three quarters of one percent (0.75%), for Community College faculty and professional staff, including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions, supported by State funds.

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM/EPA SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.12.(a)** The Director of the Budget shall transfer to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina sufficient funds from the Reserve for Compensation Increases, created in this act for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, to provide an annual salary increase of four and one-quarter percent (4.25%), including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions, commencing July 1, 2007, for all employees of The University of North Carolina, as well as employees other than teachers of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, supported by State funds and whose salaries are exempt from the State Personnel Act (EPA).

SECTION 28.12.(b) The Director of the Budget shall transfer to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina sufficient funds from the Reserve for Compensation Increases, created in this act for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, to provide an average annual salary increase of five percent (5%) but at least an annual increase of one thousand two hundred forty dollars (\$1,240), including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions, commencing July 1, 2007, for all teaching employees of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, supported by State funds and whose salaries are exempt from the State Personnel Act (EPA). These funds shall be allocated to individuals according to the rules adopted by the Board of Trustees of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and may not be used for any purpose other than for salary increases and necessary employer contributions provided by this section.

### STATE AGENCY TEACHERS' COMPENSATION

**SECTION 28.13.** Funds in the Reserve for Compensation Increases shall be used for experience step increases for employees of schools operated by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Correction, or the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, who are paid on the Teacher Salary Schedule or the School Based Administrator Salary Schedule.

### MOST STATE EMPLOYEES/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.14.(a)** The salaries in effect June 30, 2007, of all permanent full-time State employees whose salaries are set in accordance with the State Personnel Act, and who are paid from the General Fund or the Highway Fund, shall be increased,

on or after July 1, 2007, unless otherwise provided by this act, by four and one-quarter percent (4.25%).

**SECTION 28.14.(b)** Except as otherwise provided in this act, the fiscal year 2007-2008 salaries for permanent full-time State officials and persons in exempt positions that are recommended by the Governor or the Governor and the Advisory Budget Commission and set by the General Assembly shall be increased by four and one-quarter percent (4.25%), commencing July 1, 2007.

**SECTION 28.14.(c)** The salaries in effect for fiscal year 2007-2008 for all permanent part-time State employees shall be increased on and after July 1, 2007, by the four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) salary increase provided for permanent full-time employees covered under this part.

**SECTION 28.14.(d)** The Director of the Budget may allocate out of special operating funds or from other sources of the employing agency, except tax revenues, sufficient funds to allow a salary increase, on and after July 1, 2007, in accordance with subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions, for the permanent full-time and part-time employees of the agency, provided the employing agency elects to make available the necessary funds.

**SECTION 28.14.(e)** Within regular State Budget Act procedures as limited by this act, all State agencies and departments may increase on an equitable basis the rate of pay of temporary and permanent hourly State employees, subject to availability of funds in the particular agency or department, by pro rata amounts of the four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) salary increase provided for permanent full-time employees covered by the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, commencing July 1, 2007.

### ALL STATE-SUPPORTED PERSONNEL/SALARY INCREASES

**SECTION 28.15.(a)** Salaries and related benefits for positions that are funded partially from the General Fund or Highway Fund and partially from sources other than the General Fund or Highway Fund shall be increased from the General Fund or Highway Fund appropriation only to the extent of the proportionate part of the salaries paid from the General Fund or Highway Fund.

**SECTION 28.15.(b)** The granting of the salary increases under this act does not affect the status of eligibility for salary increments for which employees may be eligible unless otherwise required by this act.

**SECTION 28.15.(c)** The salary increases provided in this act are to be effective July 1, 2007, and do not apply to persons separated from State service due to resignation, dismissal, reduction in force, death, or retirement, or whose last workday is prior to July 1, 2007.

Payroll checks issued to employees after July 1, 2007, which represent payment of services provided prior to July 1, 2007, shall not be eligible for salary increases provided for in this act. This subsection shall apply to all employees, subject to or exempt from the State Personnel Act, paid from State funds, including public schools, community colleges, and The University of North Carolina.

**SECTION 28.15.(d)** The Director of the Budget shall transfer from the Reserve for Compensation Increases in this act for fiscal year 2007-2008 all funds necessary for the salary increases provided by this act, including funds for the employer's retirement and social security contributions.

**SECTION 28.15.(e)** Nothing in this act authorizes the transfer of funds between the General Fund and the Highway Fund for salary increases.

**SECTION 28.15.(f)** Permanent full-time employees who work a nine-, ten-, or eleven-month work year schedule shall receive the four and one-quarter percent (4.25%) annual increase provided by this act.

### SALARY ADJUSTMENT FUND

**SECTION 28.18.(a)** Any remaining appropriations in the General Fund Reserve for Compensation Increases authorized for employee salary increases not required for that purpose may be used to supplement the General Fund Salary Adjustment Fund to support salary adjustments for positions supported by the General Fund. Any remaining appropriations in the Highway Fund Reserves and Transfers authorized for employee salary increases not required for that purpose may be used to supplement the Highway Fund Salary Adjustment Fund to support salary adjustments for positions supported by the Highway Fund.

**SECTION 28.18.(b)** Funds appropriated or otherwise transferred to the General Fund Salary Adjustment Fund or to the Highway Fund Salary Adjustment Fund by this act or any other provision of law shall be used to fund agency requests for the following purposes:

- (1) Salary range revisions, special minimum rates, grade to band transfers and geographic site differential adjustments to provide competitive salary rates for affected job classifications/groups in response to changes in labor market rates as documented through data collection and analysis according to accepted human resource professional practices and standards.
- (2) Reallocation of positions to higher level job classifications to compensate employees for more difficult duties at competitive salary rates as documented through data collection and analysis according to accepted human resource professional practices and standards.

The terms 'salary range revision' and 'reallocation' as used in this section shall conform to the definitions of those terms as previously contained in the State Personnel Manual and adopted by the State Personnel Commission effective immediately prior to November 1, 2005. Funds shall only be used for salary adjustments that are in compliance with State Personnel Commission policies. Funding shall first be provided to the earliest actions approved on or before July 1, 2007, by the State Personnel Commission or the Office of State Personnel and shall not be used for other purposes including, but not limited to, in-range adjustments, career progression adjustments, or other adjustments as these terms may be defined by State personnel policy.

**SECTION 28.18.(c)** The Director of the Budget shall consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to transferring any salary adjustment funds for any State agency.

**SECTION 28.18.(d)** The Director of the Budget may:

- (1) Transfer to General Fund budget codes from the General Fund Salary Adjustment Fund amounts required to support salary adjustments authorized by this section with the oldest of the pending adjustments to be funded first.
- (2) Transfer to Highway Fund budget codes from the Highway Fund Salary Adjustment Fund amounts required to support salary adjustments authorized by this section.

**SECTION 28.18.(e)** The Judicial Department is eligible for the funding authorized in subsection (a) of this section.

**SECTION 28.18.(f)** Employees subject to the State Personnel Act in The University of North Carolina System are eligible for funding authorized in subsection (a) of this section and for the purposes outlined in subsection (b) of this section.

### SALARY-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS/EMPLOYER

**SECTION 28.19.(a)** Required employer salary-related contributions for employees whose salaries are paid from department, office, institution, or agency receipts shall be paid from the same source as the source of the employees' salary. If an employee's salary is paid in part from the General Fund or Highway Fund and in part from department, office, institution, or agency receipts, required employer salary-related contributions may be paid from the General Fund or Highway Fund only to the extent of the proportionate part paid from the General Fund or Highway Fund in support of the salary of the employee, and the remainder of the employer's requirements shall be paid from the source that supplies the remainder of the employee's salary. The requirements of this section as to source of payment are also applicable to payments on behalf of the employee for hospital-medical benefits, longevity pay, unemployment compensation, accumulated leave, workers' compensation, severance pay, separation allowances, and applicable disability income benefits.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employer who hires or has hired a retiree as an employee shall enroll the retiree in the active group and pay the cost for the hospital-medical benefits if that retiree is employed in a position that would require the employer to pay hospital-medical benefits if the individual had not been retired.

Effective July 1, 2007, the State's employer **SECTION 28.19.(b)** contribution rates budgeted for retirement and related benefits as percentage of covered salaries for the 2007-2008 fiscal year are: (i) seven and ninety-six hundredths percent (7.96%) – Teachers and State Employees; (ii) twelve and ninety-six hundredths percent (12.96%) – State Law Enforcement Officers; (iii) eleven and sixty-six hundredths percent (11.66%) - University Employees' Optional Retirement System; (iv) eleven and sixty-six hundredths percent (11.66%) – Community College Optional Retirement Program; (v) sixteen and eighty-nine hundredths percent (16.89%) – Consolidated Judicial Retirement System; and (vi) four and thirty hundredths percent (4.30%) – Legislative Retirement System. Each of the foregoing contribution rates includes four and thirty hundredths percent (4.30%) for hospital and medical benefits. The rate for Teachers and State Employees, State Law Enforcement Officers, Community College Optional Retirement Program, and for the University Employees' Optional Retirement Program includes fifty-two hundredths percent (0.52%) for the Disability Income Plan. The rates for Teachers and State Employees and State Law Enforcement Officers include sixteen-hundredths percent (0.16%) for the Death Benefits Plan. The rate for State Law Enforcement Officers includes five percent (5%) for Supplemental Retirement Income.

**SECTION 28.19.(c)** Effective July 1, 2008, the State's employer contribution rates budgeted for retirement and related benefits as percentage of covered salaries for the 2007-2008 fiscal year are: (i) seven and ninety-six hundredths percent (7.96%) – Teachers and State Employees; (ii) twelve and ninety-six hundredths percent (12.96%) – State Law Enforcement Officers; (iii) eleven and sixty-six hundredths percent (11.66%) – University Employees' Optional Retirement System; (iv) eleven and sixty-six hundredths percent (11.66%) – Community College Optional Retirement Program; (v) sixteen and eighty-nine hundredths percent (16.89%) – Consolidated Judicial Retirement System; and (vi) four and thirty hundredths percent (4.30%) – Legislative Retirement System. Each of the foregoing contribution rates includes four

and thirty hundredths percent (4.30%) for hospital and medical benefits. The rate for Teachers and State Employees, State Law Enforcement Officers, Community College Optional Retirement Program, and for the University Employees' Optional Retirement Program includes fifty-two hundredths percent (0.52%) for the Disability Income Plan. The rates for Teachers and State Employees and State Law Enforcement Officers include sixteen-hundredths percent (0.16%) for the Death Benefits Plan. The rate for State Law Enforcement Officers includes five percent (5%) for Supplemental Retirement Income.

**SECTION 28.19.(d)** The maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan's Indemnity Plan are: (i) Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – three thousand two hundred sixty-two dollars (\$3,262) and (ii) non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – four thousand two hundred eighty-four dollars (\$4,284).

**SECTION 28.19.(e)** The maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan's Indemnity Plan are: (i) Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – three thousand three hundred seventy-one dollars (\$3,371) and (ii) non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – four thousand four hundred twenty-eight dollars (\$4,428).

**SECTION 28.19.(f)** The maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan's Preferred Provider Options Program are: (i) Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – three thousand one hundred nineteen dollars (\$3,119) and (ii) non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – four thousand ninety-seven dollars (\$4,097).

**SECTION 28.19.(g)** The maximum annual employer contributions, payable monthly, by the State for each covered employee or retiree for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan's Preferred Provider Options Program are: (i) Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – three thousand two hundred ten dollars (\$3,210) and (ii) non-Medicare-eligible employees and retirees – four thousand two hundred seventeen dollars (\$4,217).

PROVIDE COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES FOR RETIREES OF THE TEACHERS' AND STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, THE JUDICIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM, THE LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT SYSTEM, AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

**SECTION 28.20.(a)** G.S. 135-5 is amended by adding a new subsection to ead:

"(qqq) From and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced on or before July 1, 2006, shall be increased by two percent (2%) of the allowance payable on June 1, 2007, in accordance with G.S. 135-5(o). Furthermore, from and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced after July 1, 2006, but before June 30, 2007, shall be increased by a prorated amount of two percent (2%) of the allowance payable as determined by the Board of Trustees based upon the number of months that a retirement allowance was paid between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007."

**SECTION 28.20.(b)** G.S. 135-65 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(bb) From and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced on or before July 1, 2006, shall be increased by two percent (2%) of the allowance payable on June 1, 2007. Furthermore, from and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced after July 1, 2006, but before June 30, 2007, shall be increased by a prorated amount of two percent (2%) of the allowance payable as determined by the Board of Trustees based upon the number of months that a retirement allowance was paid between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007."

**SECTION 28.20.(c)** G.S. 120-4.22A is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(v) In accordance with subsection (a) of this section, from and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced on or before January 1, 2007, shall be increased by two percent (2%) of the allowance payable on June 1, 2007. Furthermore, from and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced after January 1, 2007, but before June 30, 2007, shall be increased by a prorated amount of two percent (2%) of the allowance payable as determined by the Board of Trustees based upon the number of months that a retirement allowance was paid between January 1, 2007, and June 30, 2007."

SECTION 28.20.(d) G.S. 128-27 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(hhh) From and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced on or before July 1, 2006, shall be increased by two and two-tenths percent (2.2%) of the allowance payable on June 1, 2007, in accordance with subsection (k) of this section. Furthermore, from and after July 1, 2007, the retirement allowance to or on account of beneficiaries whose retirement commenced after July 1, 2006, but before June 30, 2007, shall be increased by a prorated amount of two and two-tenths percent (2.2%) of the allowance payable as determined by the Board of Trustees based upon the number of months that a retirement allowance was paid between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007."

# INCREASE THE MONTHLY PENSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE FIREMEN'S AND RESCUE SQUAD WORKERS' PENSION FUND

**SECTION 28.21.** G.S. 58-86-55 reads as rewritten:

### "§ 58-86-55. Monthly pensions upon retirement.

Any member who has served 20 years as an "eligible fireman" or "eligible rescue squad worker" in the State of North Carolina, as provided in G.S. 58-86-25 and G.S. 58-86-30, and who has attained the age of 55 years is entitled to be paid a monthly pension from this fund. The monthly pension shall be in the amount of one hundred sixty five dollars (\$165.00) one hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$167.00) per month. Any retired fireman receiving a pension shall, effective July 1, 2006, July 1, 2007, receive a pension of one hundred sixty five dollars (\$165.00) one hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$167.00) per month.

Members shall pay ten dollars (\$10.00) per month as required by G.S. 58-86-35 and G.S. 58-86-40 for a period of no longer than 20 years. No "eligible rescue squad member" shall receive a pension prior to July 1, 1983. No member shall be entitled to a pension hereunder until the member's official duties as a fireman or rescue squad worker for which the member is paid compensation shall have been terminated and the member shall have retired as such according to standards or rules fixed by the board of trustees.

A member who is totally and permanently disabled while in the discharge of the member's official duties as a result of bodily injuries sustained or as a result of extreme exercise or extreme activity experienced in the course and scope of those official duties and who leaves the fire or rescue squad service because of this disability shall be entitled to be paid from the fund a monthly benefit in an amount of one hundred sixty five dollars (\$165.00) one hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$167.00) per month beginning the first month after the member's fifty-fifth birthday. All applications for disability are subject to the approval of the board who may appoint physicians to examine and evaluate the disabled member prior to approval of the application, and annually thereafter. Any disabled member shall not be required to make the monthly payment of ten dollars (\$10.00) as required by G.S. 58-86-35 and G.S. 58-86-40.

A member who is totally and permanently disabled for any cause, other than line of

A member who is totally and permanently disabled for any cause, other than line of duty, who leaves the fire or rescue squad service because of this disability and who has at least 10 years of service with the pension fund, may be permitted to continue making a monthly contribution of ten dollars (\$10.00) to the fund until the member has made contributions for a total of 240 months. The member shall upon attaining the age of 55 years be entitled to receive a pension as provided by this section. All applications for disability are subject to the approval of the board who may appoint physicians to examine and evaluate the disabled member prior to approval of the application and annually thereafter.

A member who, because his residence is annexed by a city under Part 2 or Part 3 of Article 4-Article 4A of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, or whose department is closed because of an annexation by a city under Part 2 or Part 3 of Article 4-Article 4A of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, or whose volunteer department is taken over by a city or county, and because of such annexation or takeover is unable to perform as a fireman or rescue squad worker of any status, and if the member has at least 10 years of service with the pension fund, may be permitted to continue making a monthly contribution of ten dollars (\$10.00) to the fund until the member has made contributions for a total of 240 months. The member upon attaining the age of 55 years and completion of such contributions shall be entitled to receive a pension as provided by this section. Any application to make monthly contributions under this section shall be subject to a finding of eligibility by the Board of Trustees upon application of the member.

The pensions provided shall be in addition to all other pensions or benefits under any other statutes of the State of North Carolina or the United States, notwithstanding any exclusionary provisions of other pensions or retirement systems provided by law."

# ENHANCE BENEFITS PAYABLE THROUGH THE NATIONAL GUARD PENSION FUND

**SECTION 28.21A.** G.S. 127A-40(a) reads as rewritten:

- "(a) Every member and former member of the North Carolina national guard who meets the requirements hereinafter set forth shall receive, commencing at age 60, a pension of eighty dollars (\$80.00) ninety-five dollars (\$95.00) per month for 20 years' creditable military service with an additional eight dollars (\$8.00) nine dollars fifty cents (\$9.50) per month for each additional year of such service; provided, however, that the total pension shall not exceed one hundred sixty dollars (\$160.00) one hundred ninety dollars (\$190.00) per month. The requirements for such pension are that each member shall:
  - (1) Have served and qualified for at least 20 years' creditable military service, including national guard, reserve and active duty, under the

- same requirement specified for entitlement to retired pay for nonregular service under Chapter 67, Title 10, United States Code.
- (2) Have at least 15 years of the aforementioned service as a member of the North Carolina national guard.
- (3) Have received an honorable discharge from the North Carolina national guard."

### STATE HEALTH PLAN CHANGES

**SECTION 28.22.(a)** The Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan (Plan) shall provide for an annual open enrollment period in the Indemnity Plan and Optional PPO program for the July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, Plan year. Plan member changes to coverage type or selection of benefit coverage under the Indemnity Plan or Optional PPO program during open enrollment shall become effective October 1, 2007. At least 45 days prior to October 1, 2007, the Plan shall provide to all plan members sufficient information on premiums, cost-sharing, and benefits to enable the plan member or other eligible participant to make an enrollment election effective October 1, 2007. As used in this subsection, the term "plan member" includes active employees, retired employees, and other eligible participants with respect to the Indemnity Plan and the optional PPO program.

**SECTION 28.22.(b)** G.S. 135-40.1(2) reads as rewritten:

"(2) Deductible. – Deductible shall mean an amount of covered expenses during a fiscal year which must be incurred after which benefits (subject to the deductible) becomes payable. The deductible for an employee, retired employee and/or his or her dependents shall be three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) for each fiscal year.

The deductible applies separately to each covered individual in each fiscal year, subject to an aggregate maximum of one thousand fifty dollars (\$1,050)one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350) per employee and child(ren) or employee and family coverage contract in any fiscal year.

If two or more family members are injured in the same accident only one deductible is required for charges related to that accident during the benefit period."

**SECTION 28.22.(c)** G.S. 135-40.4 reads as rewritten:

### "§ 135-40.4. Benefits in general.

(a) In the event a covered person, as a result of accidental bodily injury, disease or pregnancy, incurs covered expenses, the Plan will pay benefits up to the amounts described in G.S. 135-40.5 through G.S. 135-40.9.

The Plan is divided into two parts. The first part includes certain benefits which are not subject to a deductible or coinsurance. The second part is a comprehensive plan and includes those benefits which are subject to both a three hundred fifty dollar (\$350.00) four hundred fifty dollar (\$450.00) deductible for each covered individual to an aggregate maximum of one thousand fifty dollars (\$1,050) one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350) per employee and child(ren) or employee and family coverage contract and coinsurance of 80%/20%. There is a limit on out-of-pocket expenses under the second part.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, the Executive Administrator and Board of Trustees of the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan may contract with providers of institutional and professional medical care and services to established preferred provider networks. The terms pertaining to

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reimbursement rates or other terms of consideration of any contract between hospitals. hospital authorities, doctors or other medical providers, an optional program contract authorized under G.S. 135-39.5B(b), or a pharmacy benefit manager and the Plan shall not be a public record under Chapter 132 of the General Statutes for a period of thirty months after the date of the expiration of the contract. Provided, however, nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to prevent or restrict the release of any information made not a public record under this subsection to the State Auditor, the Attorney General, the Director of the State Budget, the Plan's Executive Administrator, and the Committee on Employee Hospital and Medical Benefits solely and exclusively for their use in the furtherance of their duties and responsibilities. The design, adoption, and implementation of the preferred provider contracts and networks are not subject to the requirements of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, provided that for any hospital preferred provider network all hospitals will have an opportunity to contract with the Plan if they meet the contract requirements. The Executive Administrator and Board of Trustees shall, under the provisions of G.S. 135-39.5(12), pursue such preferred provider contracts on a timely basis and shall make reports as requested to the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Employee Hospital and Medical Benefits on its progress in negotiating the preferred provider contracts. The Executive Administrator and Board of Trustees shall implement a refined diagnostic-related grouping or diagnostic-related grouping-based reimbursement system for hospitals as soon as practicable, but no later than January 1, 1995.

(b) As used in this section the term "preferred provider contracts or networks" includes, but is not limited to, a refined diagnostic-related grouping or diagnostic-related grouping-based system of reimbursement for hospitals."

**SECTION 28.22.(d)** G.S. 135-40.5(g) reads as rewritten:

"(g) Prescription Drugs. – The Plan's allowable charges for prescription legend drugs to be used outside of a hospital or skilled nursing facility are to be determined by the Plan's Executive Administrator and Board of Trustees. The Plan will pay allowable charges for each outpatient prescription drug less a copayment to be paid by each covered individual equal to the following amounts: pharmacy charges up to ten dollars (\$10.00) for each generic prescription, twenty five dollars (\$25.00)thirty dollars (\$30.00) for each preferred branded prescription, and forty dollars (\$40.00) for each preferred branded or generic equivalent drug, and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each nonpreferred branded or generic prescription.

Allowable charges shall not be greater than a pharmacy's usual and customary charge to the general public for a particular prescription. Prescriptions shall be for no more than a 34-day supply for the purposes of the copayments paid by each covered individual. By accepting the copayments and any remaining allowable charges provided by this subsection, pharmacies shall not balance bill an individual covered by the Plan. A prescription legend drug is defined as an article the label of which, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, is required to bear the legend: "Caution: Federal Law Prohibits Dispensing Without Prescription." Such articles may not be sold to or purchased by the public without a prescription order. Benefits are provided for insulin even though a prescription is not required. The Plan may use a pharmacy benefit manager to help manage the Plan's outpatient prescription drug coverage. In managing the Plan's outpatient prescription drug benefits, the Plan and its pharmacy benefit manager shall not provide coverage for erectile dysfunction, growth hormone, antiwrinkle, weight loss, and hair growth drugs unless such coverage is medically necessary to the health of the member. The Plan and its pharmacy benefit manager shall not provide coverage for growth hormone and weight loss drugs and antifungal drugs

for the treatment of nail fungus and botulinium toxin without approval in advance by the pharmacy benefit manager. Any formulary used by the Plan's Executive Administrator and pharmacy benefit manager shall be an open formulary. Plan members shall not be assessed more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per person per fiscal year in copayments required by this subsection."

**SECTION 28.22.(e)** The first paragraph of G.S. 135-40.6 reads as rewritten: "The benefits provided in this section are subject to a deductible of three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) four hundred fifty dollars (\$450.00) per covered individual to an aggregate maximum of one thousand fifty dollars (\$1,050) one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350) per employee and child(ren) or employee and family coverage contract per fiscal year and are payable on the basis of eighty percent (80%) by the Plan and twenty percent (20%) by the covered individual up to a maximum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) out-of-pocket per fiscal year. The aggregate maximum out-of-pocket required of individuals covered by this section shall not be more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) per employee and child(ren) or employee and family coverage contract per fiscal year."

**SECTION 28.22.(f)** G.S. 135-40.8(c3) reads as rewritten:

"(c3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, the Plan does not pay for the first fifteen dollars (\$15.00) twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) of allowable charges for each home, office, or skilled nursing facility visit under the provisions of G.S. 135-40.6(7)a. and b., G.S. 135-40.6(4), G.S. 135-40.6(8)i., j., k., n., r., and s., and G.S. 135-40.5(e). The co-payment assessed by this subsection shall be assessed only once per person per provider per day and shall not apply to laboratory, pathology, and radiology services, or to charges for injected medications. The exclusion made under this subsection shall not count toward the deductible nor toward the maximum amount of coinsurance out-of-pocket costs."

### RETIREE HEALTH BENEFIT FUND

**SECTION 28.23.** G.S. 135-7(f) reads as rewritten:

"(f) Retiree Health Benefit Fund. – The Retiree Health Benefit Fund is established as a fund in which accumulated contributions from employers and any earnings on those contributions shall be used to provide health benefits to retired and disabled employees and their applicable beneficiaries as provided by this Chapter. The Retiree Health Benefit Fund shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Employer contributions to the Fund are irrevocable. The assets of the Fund are dedicated to providing health benefits to retired and disabled employees and their applicable beneficiaries as provided by this Chapter and are not subject to the claims of creditors of the employers making contributions to the Fund. However, Fund assets may be used for reasonable expenses to administer the Fund, including costs to conduct required actuarial valuations of State-supported retired employees' health benefits under other post-employment benefit accounting standards set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board of the Financial Accounting Foundation."

### PART XXIX. CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS.

### GENERAL FUND CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS/INTRODUCTION

**SECTION 29.1.** The appropriations made by the 2007 General Assembly for capital improvements are for constructing, repairing, or renovating State buildings, utilities, and other capital facilities, for acquiring sites for them where necessary, and acquiring buildings and land for State government purposes.

1 2 3 4 5 6	CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS/GENERAL FUND SECTION 29.2.(a) There is appropriated from the Gene 2007-2008 fiscal year the following amount for capital improvements:	ral Fund for the
5 6	Capital Improvements – General Fund	2007-2008
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Department of Administration NC Court of Appeals Building Renovation Deerfield Cottage Renovation State Highway Patrol Training Facility Planning Funds State Capital Visitors Center / Public Plaza / Underground Parking Facility Planning Funds	\$10,498,000 3,556,000 1,721,000 627,281
14 15 16 17 18 19	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Veterinary Laboratory System Study and Planning Funds Western Agricultural Center Facilities – Phase I Eastern Agricultural Center Facilities Oxford Research Complex	1,250,000 5,000,000 3,000,000 5,000,000
20 21 22	Department of Commerce NC Ports Improvements	7,500,000
23 24 25 26	Department of Correction Scotland Correctional Institution Minimum Security Addition Planning Funds Bertie Correctional Institution Medium Security Addition	1,033,088
27 28	Planning Funds Lanesboro Correctional Institution Medium Security	1,551,950
29 30 31	Addition Planning Funds Tabor Correctional Institution Minimum Security Addition Planning Funds	547,839 364,680
32 33 34 35 36 37	Department of Crime Control and Public Safety Gastonia National Guard Armory Rehabilitation Statewide Department Master Plan – Phase I Camp Butner Land Buffers – Phase I	527,100 280,294 117,800
38 39 40 41 42	Department of Cultural Resources Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum Renovations NC Museum of History Chronology Exhibit – Phase I Horne Creek Farm Visitors Center	3,921,100 6,322,900 442,100
43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51	Department of Natural and Environmental Resources Division of Water Quality Modular Office NC Zoo Horticulture Storage Facility NC Zoo Plains Barns and Paddocks Division of Forestry Resources Ashe County Headquarters Division of Forestry Resources Buncombe County Headquarters Water Resources Development Projects  Department of Justice	252,200 450,000 3,006,000 708,000 462,300 18,563,000

General Assembly of North Carolina	Session 2007
State Bureau of Investigation Garner Road Facilities Addition Western Justice Academy Firing Range State Bureau of Investigation Operations Wing Planning Funds	1,792,006 1,974,103 1,300,000
Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Dillon Youth Development Center Maintenance Building Dillon Youth Development Center Mobile Office	375,000 200,000
Information Technology Services Secondary Data Center Equipment	7,000,000
University of North Carolina System University of North Carolina at Asheville – Rhoades Hall and Rhoades Tower Renovation	8,687,000
Appalachian State University College of Education Building	9,000,000
East Carolina University – School of Dentistry Planning Funds	2,500,000
Elizabeth City State University – Education Building Planning Funds	994,000
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University and University of North Carolina Greensboro – Nanoscience and Nano-engineering Building Planning Funds	2,485,000
North Carolina Central University – School of Nursing Planning Funds	1,136,000
North Carolina School of Science and Math – Discovery Center Planning Funds	3,337,000
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – School of Dentistry Planning Funds	2,500,000
University of North Carolina at Charlotte – Research Facilities Phase II Planning Funds	3,340,000
Western Carolina University – School of Health and Gerontology Planning Funds	2,200,000
Winston-Salem State University – Science and General Office Building Planning Funds	1,351,000
TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – GENERAL FUND	\$126,873,541

**SECTION 29.2.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of forty-four million dollars (\$44,000,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the sum of seventy-five million six hundred eight thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$75,608,225) for the

\$18,563,000

2008-2009 fiscal year for the design and construction of the Genomics Science Building at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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### WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FUNDS

**SECTION 29.3.(a)** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall allocate the funds appropriated in this act for water resources development projects to the following projects whose costs are as indicated:

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9	Nam	e of Project	2007-2008
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11	(1)	Wilmington Harbor Deepening	\$ 4,333,000
12	(2)	Manteo (Shallowbag) Bay	350,000
13	(3)	Wilmington Harbor Maintenance	2,000,000
14	(4)	Bogue Banks Shore Protection Study	125,000
15	(5)	B. Everett Jordan Lake Water Supply Storage	100,000
16	(6)	Princeville Flood Control	98,000
17	(7)	Aquatic Plant Control, Statewide and Lake Gaston	200,000
18	(8)	Belhaven Harbor Feasibility	120,000
19	(9)	John H. Kerr Dam & Reservoir	520,000
20	(10)	Currituck Sound Environmental Restoration Study	350,000
21	(11)	Neuse River Basin Study	554,000
22	(12)	Surf City/North Topsail Beach Study	50,000
23	(13)	West Onslow Beach (Topsail Beach) Study	43,000
24	(14)	Dare County Beaches (Bodie Island)	500,000
25	(15)	North Carolina Beach and Inlet Management Plan	250,000
26	(16)	Dredging Contingency Fund	2,500,000
27	(17)	State – Local Projects	2,400,000
28	(18)	Black River Restoration – Pender County	100,000
29	(19)	Western N.C. Hurricane Damage Stream Restoration	1,200,000
30	(20)	Planning Assistance to Communities	75,000
31	(21)	Concord Stream Restoration – Cabarrus County	170,000
32	(22)	Southern Shores Canal Dredging Phase 2	800,000
33	(23)	Ararat River Restoration	550,000
34	(24)	Town of Williamston Drainage Improvement	600,000
35	(25)	Little Sugar Creek Stream Restoration Phase 7	575,000
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**SECTION 29.3.(b)** Where the actual costs are different from the estimated costs under subsection (a) of this section, the Department may adjust the allocations among projects as needed. If any projects funded under subsection (a) of this section are delayed and the budgeted State funds cannot be used during the 2007-2008 fiscal year, or if the projects funded under subsection (a) of this section are accomplished at a lower cost, the Department may use the resulting fund availability to fund any of the following:

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- (1) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project feasibility studies.
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects whose schedules have (2) advanced and require State-matching funds in fiscal year 2007-2008.
- State-local water resources development projects. (3)

Funds not expended or encumbered for these purposes shall revert to the General Fund at the end of the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

**TOTALS** 

**SECTION 29.3.(c)** The Department shall make semiannual reports on the use of these funds to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Office of State Budget and Management. Each report shall include all of the following:

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All projects listed in this section. (1) (2) The estimated cost of each project.

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(3) The date that work on each project began or is expected to begin.

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The date that work on each project was completed or is expected to be (4) completed.

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The actual cost of each project. (5)

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The semiannual reports shall also show those projects advanced in schedule, those projects delayed in schedule, and an estimate of the amount of funds expected to revert to the General Fund.

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### PROCEDURES FOR DISBURSEMENT OF CAPITAL FUNDS

**SECTION 29.4.** The appropriations made by the 2007 General Assembly for capital improvements shall be disbursed for the purposes provided by this act. Expenditure of funds shall not be made by any State department, institution, or agency until an allotment has been approved by the Governor as Director of the Budget. The allotment shall be approved only after full compliance with the State Budget Act, Chapter 143C of the General Statutes. Prior to the award of construction contracts for projects to be financed in whole or in part with self-liquidating appropriations, the Director of the Budget shall approve the elements of the method of financing of those projects including the source of funds, interest rate, and liquidation period. Provided, however, that if the Director of the Budget approves the method of financing a project, the Director shall report that action to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations at its next meeting.

Where direct capital improvement appropriations include the purpose of furnishing fixed and movable equipment for any project, those funds for equipment shall not be subject to transfer into construction accounts except as authorized by the Director of the Budget. The expenditure of funds for fixed and movable equipment and furnishings shall be reviewed and approved by the Director of the Budget prior to commitment of funds.

Capital improvement projects authorized by the 2007 General Assembly shall be completed, including fixed and movable equipment and furnishings, within the limits of the amounts of the direct or self-liquidating appropriations provided, except as otherwise provided in this act. Capital improvement projects authorized by the 2007 General Assembly for the design phase only shall be designed within the scope of the project as defined by the approved cost estimate filed with the Director of the Budget, including costs associated with site preparation, demolition, and movable and fixed equipment.

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### REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS RESERVE ALLOCATION

**SECTION 29.5.(a)** Of the funds in the Reserve for Repairs and Renovations for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, forty-six percent (46%) shall be allocated to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina for repairs and renovations pursuant to G.S. 143C-4-3, in accordance with guidelines developed in The University of North Carolina Funding Allocation Model for Reserve for Repairs and Renovations, as approved by the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, and fifty-four percent (54%) shall be allocated to the Office of State Budget and Management for repairs and renovations pursuant to G.S. 143C-4-3.

Notwithstanding G.S. 143C-4-3, the Board of Governors may allocate funds for the repair and renovation of facilities not supported from the General Fund if the Board determines that sufficient funds are not available from other sources and that conditions warrant General Fund assistance. Any such finding shall be included in the Board's submission to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on the proposed allocation of funds.

The Board of Governors and the Office of State Budget and Management shall consult with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations prior to the allocation or reallocation of these funds.

**SECTION 29.5.(b)** The Office of State Budget and Management and the University of North Carolina General Administration shall jointly study the allocation of funds in the Reserve for Repairs and Renovations set forth in subsection (a) of this section and shall recommend to the General Assembly changes to the current allocation if any are deemed necessary. The study shall include the following:

- (1) A review of the Department of Administration's Facilities Condition and Assessment Program.
- (2) A review and identification of State-owned buildings supported by the General Fund.
- (3) A review of the actual expenditures for repairs and renovations from allocated reserve funds.

The Office of State Budget and Management and the University of North Carolina General Administration shall submit a joint report to the Senate Appropriations and Base Budget Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Capital, the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Capital and Infrastructure Financing, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Capital Improvements, and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include the study findings and recommendations and shall be submitted no later than April 1, 2008.

**SECTION 29.5.(c)** Of the funds appropriated in this act for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to the Reserve for Repairs and Renovations, the sum of one million six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,650,000) shall be used for roof repair at the North Carolina Transportation Museum.

### PLANT CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUNDS

**SECTION 29.6.** From funds deposited with the State Treasurer in a capital improvement account to the credit of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to G.S. 146-30, the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to be used, notwithstanding G.S. 146-30, by the Department for its plant conservation program under Article 19B of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes for costs incidental to the acquisition of land, such as land appraisals, land surveys, title searches, environmental studies, and for the management of the plant conservation program preserves owned by the Department.

### STATE FAIRGROUNDS IMPROVEMENT FUNDS

**SECTION 29.7.** From funds received from the sale of utility easements on property allocated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in the vicinity of the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh that are deposited with the State Treasurer in a capital improvement account to the credit of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to G.S. 146-30, the sum of nine hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$975,000) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year shall be transferred to the

Department to be used for planning and capital improvements to property at the State Fairgrounds.

### EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL CENTER FUNDS

**SECTION 29.8.(a)** Timber sales receipts received for the sale of timber harvested on the property on which the Eastern North Carolina Agricultural Center at Williamston is located shall be transferred from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' timber sales capital improvement account in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as such funds become available and shall be used for the 2007-2008 fiscal year by the Department for capital improvements to the grounds and facilities at the Eastern North Carolina Agricultural Center.

**SECTION 29.8.(b)** Funds transferred pursuant to subsection (a) of this section are hereby appropriated.

### TIME WARNER CABLE LEASE PROCEEDS

**SECTION 29.9.** The net proceeds received from Time Warner, Inc., by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Forest Resources, for the lease of property located at 2600 Howard Road in Raleigh shall be transferred to the Department for deposit into a capital improvement account. Funds in this account for the 2007-2008 fiscal year may be used to construct an equipment storage building and related improvements.

### SPECIAL INDEBTEDNESS PROJECTS

**SECTION 29.10.(a)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of forty-five million one hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$45,167,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new educational building at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(b)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of twenty-two million five hundred eighty-seven thousand dollars (\$22,587,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new Science and Technology Complex at Fayetteville State University. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(c)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of twenty-five million seven hundred eighty-seven thousand dollars (\$25,787,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new general classroom building at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(d)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of twenty-four million nine hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$24,920,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new library at the North Carolina School of the Arts. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(e)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirty-eight million dollars (\$38,000,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing the Randall B. Terry Companion Animal Hospital at North Carolina State University. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(f)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of nineteen million dollars (\$19,000,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new residence hall at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(g)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirty-four million five hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$34,525,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new teaching lab at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(h)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of eighteen million seven hundred eight thousand dollars (\$18,708,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new student activities center at Winston-Salem State University. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(i)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirty-nine million seven hundred sixty-three thousand one hundred dollars (\$39,763,100) to finance the capital facility costs of completing a new healthcare facility to be located at the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as

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provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(j)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirteen million one hundred ninety-one thousand three hundred dollars (\$13,191,300) to finance the capital facility costs of a minimum security facility at the Alexander Correctional Institution. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(k)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of nineteen million eight hundred sixteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$19,816,500) to finance the capital facility costs of a medium security facility at the Scotland Correctional Institution. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(1)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000) to finance the capital facility costs of a new education and visitors center at Tryon Palace Historic Sites and Gardens. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(m)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of forty-six million six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$46,650,000) to finance the capital facility costs of a new office building for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources located in downtown Raleigh on the city block bordered by Jones Street to the north, Salisbury Street to the east, Edenton Street to the south, and McDowell Street to the west. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(n)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of thirty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$37,500,000) to finance the capital facility costs of completing an expansion to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences called the Nature Research Center. The facility shall be located in downtown Raleigh on the city block bordered by Jones Street to the north, Salisbury Street to the east, Edenton Street to the south, and McDowell Street to the west. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or

incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(o)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of eighteen million six hundred thousand dollars (\$18,600,000) to finance the capital facility costs of new parking facilities to be constructed in downtown Raleigh on the city block bordered by Jones Street to the north, Salisbury Street to the east, Edenton Street to the south, and McDowell Street to the west. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

**SECTION 29.10.(p)** In accordance with G.S. 142-83, this subsection authorizes the issuance or incurrence of special indebtedness in the maximum aggregate principal amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to finance the capital facility costs of a warehouse expansion for the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. The State, with the prior approval of the State Treasurer and the Council of State, as provided in Article 9 of Chapter 142 of the General Statutes, is authorized to issue or incur special indebtedness in order to provide funds to the State to be used, together with other available funds, to pay the capital facility costs of the project described in this subsection.

### **SECTION 29.10.**(**q**) G.S 18B-208(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Special Fund. – A special fund in the office of the State Treasurer, the ABC Commission Fund, is created. On and after November 1, 1982, all moneys derived from the collection of bailment charges and bailment surcharges shall be deposited in the ABC Commission Fund for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Chapter. The ABC Commission Fund shall be subject to the provisions of the Executive Budget Act except that no unexpended surplus of this fund shall revert to the General Fund. The Commission shall fix the level of the bailment surcharges at an amount calculated to cover operating expenses of the Commission and the retirement of bonds any bonded indebtedness issued for construction of a Commission warehouse and offices. Upon payment of the bonds issued pursuant to this section, any bonded indebtedness issued for construction of a Commission warehouse and offices, the Commission shall reduce the bailment surcharge to an amount no greater than necessary to pay operating expenses of the Commission as authorized by the General Assembly.

All moneys credited to the ABC Commission Fund shall be used to carry out the intent and purposes of the ABC law in accordance with plans approved by the North Carolina ABC Commission and the Director of the Budget, and all these funds are appropriated, reserved, set aside, and made available until expended for the administration of the ABC law."

**SECTION 29.10.(r)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

### PART XXX. FEES

### EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL PLAN FEE INCREASE

**SECTION 30.1.(a)** G.S. 113A-54.2(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Commission may establish a fee schedule for the review and approval of erosion and sedimentation control plans under this Article. In establishing the fee schedule, the Commission shall consider the administrative and personnel costs incurred

by the Department for reviewing the plans and for related compliance activities. An application fee may not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) of sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per acre of disturbed land shown on an erosion and sedimentation control plan or of land actually disturbed during the life of the project.project shall be charged for the review of an erosion and sedimentation control plan under this Article."

**SECTION 30.1.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to applications submitted on or after that date.

### MINING PERMIT APPLICATION FEES

**SECTION 30.2.(a)** G.S. 74-54.1 reads as rewritten:

### "§ 74-54.1. Permit fees.

(a) The Commission may establish a The fee schedule for the processing of permit applications and permit renewals and modifications. modifications is as follows:

	<u>0-25 acres</u>	<u>26+ acres</u>
New Permit Applications	\$3,750.00	\$5,000.00
Permit Modifications	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
Permit Renewals	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
<u>Transfers</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	\$100.00

The fees may vary on the basis of the acreage, size, and nature of the proposed or permitted operations or modifications. In establishing the fee schedule, the Commission shall consider the administrative and personnel costs incurred by the Department for processing applications for permits and permit renewals and modifications and for related compliance activities and safeguards to prevent unusual fee assessments that would impose a serious economic burden on an individual applicant or a class of applicants.

- (b) The total amount of permit fees collected for any fiscal year may not exceed one third of the total personnel and administrative costs incurred by the Department for processing applications for permits and permit renewals and modifications and for related compliance costs in the prior fiscal year. A fee for an application for a new permit may not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), and a fee for an application to renew or modify a permit may not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). The Mining Account is established as a nonreverting account within the Department. Fees collected under this section shall be credited to the Mining Account and shall be applied to the costs of administering this Article.
- (c) The Department shall annually report on or before 1 September to the Environmental Review Commission on the cost of implementing this Article. The report shall include the fees established, collected, and disbursed under this section and any other information requested by the General Assembly or the Commission."

**SECTION 30.2.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to applications submitted on or after that date.

### WATER QUALITY PERMIT FEES

**SECTION 30.3.(a)** G.S. 143-215.3D reads as rewritten:

### "§ 143-215.3D. Fee schedule for water quality permits.

- (a) Annual fees for discharge and nondischarge permits under G.S. 143-215.1.
  - (1) Major Individual NPDES Permits. The annual fee for an individual permit for a point source discharge of 1,000,000 or more gallons per day, a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) that administers a

- POTW pretreatment program, as defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 403.3 (1 July 1996 Edition), or an industrial waste treatment works that has a high toxic pollutant potential shall be two thousand eight hundred sixty five dollars (\$2,865).is three thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$3,440).
- Minor Individual NPDES Permits. The annual fee for an individual permit for a point source discharge other than a point source discharge to which subdivision (1) of this subsection applies shall be seven hundred fifteen dollars (\$715.00).is eight hundred sixty dollars (\$860.00).
- (3) Single-Family Residence. The annual fee for a certificate of coverage under a general permit for a point source discharge or an individual nondischarge permit from a single-family residence shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).is sixty dollars (\$60.00).
- (4) Stormwater and Wastewater Discharge General Permits. The annual fee for a certificate of coverage under a general permit for a point source discharge of stormwater or wastewater shall be eighty dollars (\$80.00).is one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- (5) Recycle Systems. The annual fee for an individual permit for a recycle system nondischarge permit shall be three hundred dollars (\$300.00).is three hundred sixty dollars (\$360.00).
- (6) Major Nondischarge Permits. The annual fee for an individual permit for a nondischarge of 10,000 or more gallons per day or requiring 300 or more acres of land shall be one thousand ninety dollars (\$1,090).is one thousand three hundred ten dollars (\$1,310).
- (7) Minor Nondischarge Permits. The annual fee for an individual permit for a nondischarge of less than 10,000 gallons per day or requiring less than 300 acres of land shall be six hundred seventy five dollars (\$675.00).is eight hundred ten dollars (\$810.00).
- (8) Animal Waste Management Systems. The annual fee for animal waste management systems shall be as set out in G.S. 143-215.10G.
- (b) Application fee for new discharge and nondischarge permits. An application for a new permit of the type set out in subsection (a) of this section shall be accompanied by an initial application fee equal to the annual fee for that permit. If a permit is issued, the application fee will be applied as the annual fee for the first year that the permit is in effect. If the application is denied, the application fee shall not be refunded.
  - (c) Application and annual fees for consent special orders.
    - (1) Major Consent Special Orders. If the Commission enters into a consent special order, assurance of voluntary compliance, or similar document pursuant to G.S. 143-215.2 for an activity subject to an annual fee under subdivision (1) or (6) of subsection (a) of this section, the initial project fee shall be is four hundred dollars (\$400.00) and the annual fee shall be is five hundred dollars (\$500.00). These fees shall be is in addition to the annual fee due under subsection (a) of this section.
    - (2) Minor Consent Special Orders. If the Commission enters into a consent special order, assurance of voluntary compliance, or similar document pursuant to G.S. 143-215.2 for an activity subject to an annual fee under subdivision (2) or (7) of subsection (a) of this section, the initial project fee shall beis four hundred dollars (\$400.00) and the

annual fee shall beis two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). These fees shall beis in addition to the annual fee due under subsection (a) of this section.

- (d) Fee for major permit modifications. An application for a major modification of a permit of the type set out in subsection (a) of this section shall be accompanied by an application fee equal to thirty percent (30%) of the annual fee applicable to that permit. A major modification of a permit is any modification that would allow an increase in the volume or pollutant load of the discharge or nondischarge or that would result in a significant relocation of the point of discharge, as determined by the Commission. This fee shall beis in addition to the fees due under subsections (a) and (c) of this section. If the application is denied, the application fee shall not be refunded.
  - (e) Other fees under this Article.
    - (1) Sewer System Extension Permits. The application fee for a permit for the construction of a new sewer system or for the extension of an existing sewer system shall be four hundred dollars (\$400.00).is four hundred eighty dollars (\$480.00).
    - (2) State Stormwater Permits. The application fee for a permit regulating stormwater runoff under G.S. 143-214.7 and G.S. 143-215.1 shall be four hundred twenty dollars (\$420.00).is five hundred five dollars (\$505.00).
    - (3) Major Water Quality Certifications. The fee for a water quality certification involving one acre or more of wetland fill or 150 feet or more of stream impact shall be four hundred seventy five dollars (\$475.00).is five hundred seventy dollars (\$570.00).
    - (4) Minor Water Quality Certifications. The fee for a water quality certification involving less than one acre of wetland fill or less than 150 feet of stream impact shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).is two hundred forty dollars (\$240.00).
    - (5) Permit for Land Application of Petroleum Contaminated Soils. The fee for a permit to apply petroleum contaminated soil to land shall be four hundred dollars (\$400.00).is four hundred eighty dollars (\$480.00).
    - (6) Fee Nonrefundable. If an application for a permit or a certification described in this subsection is denied, the application or certification fee shall not be refunded.
    - (7) Limit Water Quality Certification Fee Required for CAMA Permit. An applicant for a permit under Article 7 of Chapter 113A of the General Statutes for which a water quality certification is required shall pay a fee established by the Secretary. The Secretary shall not establish a fee that exceeds the greater of the fee for a permit under Article 7 of Chapter 113A of the General Statutes or the fee for a water quality certification under subdivision (3) or (4) of this subsection.
- (f) Local Government Fee Authority Not Impaired. This section shall not be construed to limit any authority that a unit of local government may have pursuant to any other provision of law to assess or collect a fee for the review of an application for a permit, the review of a mitigation plan, or the inspection of a site or a facility under any local program that is approved by the Commission under this Article."

**SECTION 30.3.(b)** G.S. 143-215.10G reads as rewritten:

"§ 143-215.10G. Fees for animal waste management systems.

- Session 2007 **General Assembly of North Carolina** 1 The Department shall charge an annual permit fee to an animal operation that 2 is subject to a permit under G.S. 143-215.10C for an animal waste management system 3 according to the following schedule: 4 (1) For a system with a design capacity of 38,500 or more and less than 5 100,000 pounds steady state live weight, fifty dollars (\$50.00).sixty 6 dollars (\$60.00). 7 (2) For a system with a design capacity of 100,000 or more and less than 8 800,000 pounds steady state live weight, one hundred fifty dollars 9 (\$150.00).one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00). For a system with a design capacity of 800,000 pounds or more steady 10 (3) 11 state live weight, three hundred dollars (\$300.00).three hundred sixty 12 dollars (\$360.00). 13 The Department shall charge an annual permit fee to a dry litter poultry 14 facility that is subject to a permit under G.S. 143-215.10C for an animal waste 15 management system according to the following schedule: 16 (1) For a system with a permitted capacity of less than 25,000 laying 17 chickens, less than 37,500 nonlaying chickens, or less than 16,500 18 turkeys, fifty dollars (\$50.00).sixty dollars (\$60.00). 19 (2) For a system with a permitted capacity of 25,000 or more but less than 20 200,000 laying chickens, 37,500 or more but less than 290,000 21 nonlaying chickens, 16,500 or more but less than 133,000 turkeys, one 22 hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).one hundred eighty dollars (\$180.00). 23 (3) For a system with a permitted capacity of more than 200,000 laying 24
  - (3) For a system with a permitted capacity of more than 200,000 laying chickens, more than 290,000 nonlaying chickens, or more than 133,000 turkeys, three hundred dollars (\$300.00).three hundred sixty dollars (\$360.00).
  - (b) An application for a new permit under this section shall be accompanied by an initial application fee equal to the annual fee for that permit. If a permit is issued, the application fee will-shall be applied as the annual fee for the first year that the permit is in effect. If the application is denied, the application fee shall not be refunded.
  - (c) Fees collected under this section shall be credited to the Water and Air Quality Account. The Department shall use fees collected pursuant to this section to cover the costs of administering this Part."

## **SECTION 30.3.(c)** G.S. 90A-42 reads as rewritten: "§ **90A-42. Fees.**

- (a) The Commission, in establishing procedures for implementing the requirements of this Article, shall impose the following schedule of fees:
  - (1) Examination including Certificate, \$85.00;
  - (2) Temporary Certificate, \$200.00;
  - (3) Temporary Certification Renewal, \$300.00;
  - (4) Conditional Certificate, \$75.00;
  - (5) Repealed by Session Laws 1987, c. 582, s. 3.
  - (6) Reciprocity Certificate, \$100.00;
  - (6a) Voluntary Conversion Certificate, \$50.00;
  - (7) Annual Renewal, \$35.00;\$50.00;
  - (8) Replacement of Certificate, \$20.00;
  - (9) Late Payment of Annual Renewal, \$50.00 penalty in addition to all current and past due annual renewal fees plus one hundred dollars (\$100.00) penalty per year for each year for which annual renewal fees were not paid prior to the current year; and

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**Institutional Project Hospitals** 

**Project Fee** 

\$300.00 plus \$0.20/square foot of project space

- Mailing List Charges The Commission may provide mailing lists of (10)certified water pollution control system operators and of water pollution control system operators to persons who request such lists. The charge for such lists shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each such list provided.
- The Water Pollution Control System Account is established as a nonreverting account within the Department. Fees collected under this section shall be credited to the Account and applied to the costs of administering this Article."

**SECTION 30.3.(d)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007.

#### CERTIFICATE OF NEED FEE INCREASES TO MEET STATUTORY **OBLIGATIONS**

**SECTION 30.4.(a)** G.S. 131E-177(9) reads as rewritten:

Establish and collect Collect fees for submitting applications for certificates of need. The fee schedule established should generate sufficient revenue to offset the entire cost of the certificate of need program. This fee may not exceed seventeen thousand five hundred dollars (\$17,500) and may not be less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000). Fees collected under this subdivision shall be credited to the General Fund as nontax revenue."

**SECTION 30.4.(b)** G.S. 131E-182(c) reads as rewritten:

An application fee is imposed on an applicant for a certificate of need. An applicant must submit the fee with the application. All fees established by the Department for submitting an application for a certificate of need are due when the application is submitted. These fees are The fee is not refundable, regardless of whether a certificate of need is issued. Fees collected under this section shall be credited to the General Fund as nontax revenue. The application fee is five thousand dollars (\$5,000) plus an amount equal to three-tenths of one percent (.3%) of the amount of the capital expenditure proposed in the application that exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000). In no event may the fee exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)."

**SECTION 30.4.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to applications submitted on or after that date.

#### HEALTH CARE FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FEE INCREASES TO MEET STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

**SECTION 30.5.(a)** G.S. 131E-267 reads as rewritten:

"§ 131E-267. Fees for departmental review of licensed health care facility or Medical Care Commission bond-financed construction projects.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall charge a fee for the review of each health care facility construction project to ensure that project plans and construction are in compliance with State law. The fee shall be charged on a one-time, per-project basis, as follows, and basis as provided in this section. In no event may a fee imposed under this section shall not exceed twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for any single project: project. The first seven hundred twelve thousand six hundred twenty-six dollars (\$712,626) in fees collected under this section shall remain in the Division of Facility Services. Additional fees collected shall be credited to the General Fund as nontax revenue and are intended to offset rather than replace appropriations made for this purpose.

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Nursing Homes
 1
                                           $250.00 plus $0.16/square foot of project space
 2
     Ambulatory Surgical
 3
     Facility
                                           $200.00 plus $0.16/square foot of project space
 4
                                           $200.00 plus $0.16/square foot of project space
     Psychiatric Hospital
 5
     Adult Care Home
 6
         7 or more beds
                                           $175.00 plus $0.10/square foot of project space
 7
               The fee imposed for the review of a hospital construction project varies
 8
     depending upon the square footage of the project:
 9
                      Up To
                                      Project Fee
        Over
                      5,000
                                      $750.00 plus $0.25 per square foot
        -0-
10
11
        5,000
                                      $1,500 plus $0.40 per square foot
                      10,000
                                      $2,000 plus $0.50 per square foot
12
        10,000
                      20,000
                                       $3,000 plus $0.75 per square foot
13
        20,000
                      NA
14
               The fee imposed for the review of a nursing home construction project varies
         (c)
15
     depending upon the square footage of the project:
                      Up To
                                       Project Fee
16
        <u>Over</u>
17
        -0-
                      2,000
                                      $250.00 plus $0.15 per square foot
                                       $250.00 plus $0.16 per square foot
18
        2,000
                      NA
               The fee imposed for the review of an ambulatory surgical facility
19
         (d)
20
     construction project varies depending upon the square footage of the project:
                                       Project Fee
21
                      Up To
        Over
                                       $200.00 plus $0.15 per square foot
22
        -0-
                      2,000
                                      $250.00 plus $0.20 per square foot
23
        2,000
                      NA
24
               The fee imposed for the review of a psychiatric hospital construction project
25
     varies depending upon the square footage of the project:
26
                      Up To
                                       Project Fee
        Over
                      5,000
                                       $200.00 plus $0.16 per square foot
27
        -0-
28
        5,000
                      10,000
                                       $200.00 plus $0.25 per square foot
29
        10,000
                      20,000
                                       $300.00 plus $0.45 per square foot
30
        20,000
                                      $400.00 plus $0.45 per square foot
                      NA
31
               The fee imposed for the review of an adult care home construction project
         (f)
32
     varies depending upon the square footage of the project:
33
        Over
                      Up To
                                      Project Fee
                                      $175.00 plus $0.10 per square foot
34
                      2,000
        -0-
35
        2,000
                      NA
                                       $175.00 plus $0.20 per square foot
36
               The fee imposed for the review of the following residential construction
         (g)
37
     projects is:
38
     Residential Project
                                           Project Fee
39
     Family Care Homes
                                            $175.00$200.00 flat fee
     ICF/MR Group Homes
40
                                           $275.00 $300.00 flat fee
41
     Group Homes: 1-3 beds
                                            $100.00 flat fee
42
                                           $175.00-$200.00 flat fee
     Group Homes: 4-6 beds
43
     Group Homes: 7-9 beds
                                           $225.00 $250.00 flat fee
44
     Other residential:
45
         More than 9 beds
                                      $225.00 plus $0.075/square foot of project space.
46
         More than 9 beds
                                       $250.00 plus $0.75 per square foot of project space."
47
               SECTION 30.5.(b) This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies
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     to applications for review submitted on or after that date.
49
     CHANGE CORPORATE ANNUAL REPORT FEES
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**SECTION 30.6.(a)** G.S. 55-1-22(a) reads as rewritten:

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1 2	"(a	The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when the bed in this subsection are delivered to the Secretary for filing:	e documents		
3	uesciii	Document	Fee		
4	(1)	Articles of incorporation	\$125.00		
5	(2)	Application for reserved name	30.00		
6	(3)	Notice of transfer of reserved name	10.00		
7	(4)	Application for registered name	10.00		
8	(5)	Application for renewal of registered name	10.00		
9	(6)	Corporation's statement of change of registered agent or registered			
10	` /	office or both	5.00		
11	(7)	Agent's statement of change of registered office for each affected			
12	,	corporation	5.00		
13	(8)	Agent's statement of resignation	No fee		
14	(9)	Designation of registered agent or registered office or both	5.00		
15	(10)	Amendment of articles of incorporation	50.00		
16	(11)	Restated articles of incorporation	10.00		
17		with amendment of articles	50.00		
18	(12)	Articles of merger or share exchange	50.00		
19	(12a)	Articles of conversion (other than articles of conversion included as			
20		part of another document)	50.00		
21	(13)	Articles of dissolution	30.00		
22	(14)	Articles of revocation of dissolution	10.00		
23	(15)	Certificate of administrative dissolution	No fee		
24	(16)	Application for reinstatement following administrative dissolution	100.00		
25	(17)	Certificate of reinstatement	No fee		
26	(18)	Certificate of judicial dissolution	No fee		
27	(19)	Application for certificate of authority	250.00		
28	(20)	Application for amended certificate of authority	75.00		
29	(21)	Application for certificate of withdrawal	25.00		
30	(22)	Certificate of revocation of authority to transact business	No fee		
31	(23)	Annual report (paper)	<del>20.00</del> <u>25.00</u>		
32	(23a)	Annual report (electronic)	18.00		
33	(24)	Articles of correction	10.00		
34	(25)	Application for certificate of existence or authorization (paper)	15.00		
35	(25a)	Application for certificate of existence or authorization (electronic)	10.00		
36	(26)	Any other document required or permitted to be filed by this Chapte			
37	(27)	Repealed by Session Laws 2001-358, s. 6(b), effective January 1, 20	JU2."		
38					
39 "\\$ 105-122.1. Credit for additional annual report fees paid by limited liability					

### "§ 105-122.1. Credit for additional annual report fees paid by limited liability companies subject to franchise tax.

A limited liability company subject to tax under this Article is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this Article equal to the difference between the annual report fee for corporations under G.S. 55-1-22 G.S. 55-1-22(a)(23) and the annual report fee for limited liability companies under G.S. 57C-1-22(a). The credit allowed by this section may not exceed the amount of tax imposed by this Article for the taxable year reduced by the sum of all credits allowed, except payments of tax made by or on behalf of the taxpayer."

**SECTION 30.6.(c)** Subsection (a) of this section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to annual reports filed on or after that date. Subsection (b) of this section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007. The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law.

#### PART XXXI. TAX LAW CHANGES

#### **IRC UPDATE**

**SECTION 31.1.(a)** G.S. 105-228.90(b)(1b) reads as rewritten:

- "(b) Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this Article:
  - (1b)Code. – The Internal Revenue Code as enacted as of January 1, 2006, <u>January 1, 2007, including any provisions enacted as of that date</u> which become effective either before or after that date."

**SECTION 31.1.(b)** Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, any amendments to the Internal Revenue Code enacted after January 1, 2006, that increase North Carolina taxable income for the 2006 taxable year become effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

**SECTION 31.1.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

#### EXTEND STATE SALES TAX RATE FOR TWO YEARS

**SECTION 31.2.(a)** Section 24.1(j) of S.L. 2006-66 reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 24.1.(j) Subsection (b) of this section becomes effective December 1, 2006, and applies to sales made on or after that date. Subsections (d), (f), and (h) of this section become effective January 1, 2007, and apply to taxes collected on or after that date. Subsection (c) of this section becomes effective July 1, 2007, July 1, 2009, and applies to sales made on or after that date. Subsections (e), (g), and (i) of this section become effective July 1, 2007, July 1, 2009, and apply to taxes collected on or after that date. The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law."

**SECTION 31.2.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

#### **EXTEND UPPER INCOME TAX RATE THROUGH 2009**

**SECTION 31.3.(a)** Section 24.2(d) of S.L. 2006-66 reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 24.2.(d) Subsection (b) of this section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007. Subsection (c) of this section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008. January 1, 2010. The remainder of this section is effective when it becomes law."

**SECTION 31.3.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

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#### EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

**SECTION 31.4.(a)** Part 2 of Article 4 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

### "§ 105-151.31. Earned income tax credit.

- Credit. An individual who claims for the taxable year an earned income tax credit under section 32 of the Code is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this Part equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of credit the individual qualified for under section 32 of the Code. A nonresident or part-year resident who claims the credit allowed by this section must reduce the amount of the credit by multiplying it by the fraction calculated under G.S. 105-134.5(b) or (c), as appropriate.
- Credit Refundable. If the credit allowed by this section exceeds the amount of tax imposed by this Part for the taxable year reduced by the sum of all credits allowable, the Secretary must refund the excess to the taxpayer. The refundable excess is governed by the provisions governing a refund of an overpayment by the taxpayer of the tax imposed in this Part. Section 3507 of the Code, Advance Payment of Earned Income Credit, does not apply to the credit allowed by this section. In computing the

amount of tax against which multiple credits are allowed, nonrefundable credits are subtracted before refundable credits.

(c) Sunset. – This section is repealed effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013."

#### **SECTION 31.4.(b)** G.S. 105-160.3(b) reads as rewritten:

- "(b) The following credits are not allowed to an estate or trust:
  - (1) G.S. 105-151. Tax credits for income taxes paid to other states by individuals.
  - (2) G.S. 105-151.11. Credit for child care and certain employment-related expenses.
  - (3) G.S. 105-151.18. Credit for the disabled.
  - (4) G.S. 105-151.24. Credit for children.
  - (5) G.S. 105-151.26. Credit for charitable contributions by nonitemizers.
  - (6) Repealed by Session Laws 2004-170, s. 17, effective August 2, 2004.
  - (7) G.S. 105-151.28. Credit for long-term care insurance.
  - (8) G.S. 105-151.30. Credit for recycling oyster shells.
  - (9) G.S. 105-151.31. Earned income tax credit."

**SECTION 31.4.(c)** This section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008.

#### REENACT LONG-TERM CARE CREDIT

**SECTION 31.5.(a)** G.S. 105-151.28 is reenacted and reads as rewritten: "§ 105-151.28. Credit for premiums paid on long-term care insurance.

(a) Credit. —An individual is-A taxpayer whose adjusted gross income (AGI), as calculated under the Code, is less than the amount listed in this section is allowed, as a credit against the tax imposed by this Part, an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the premium costs the individual taxpayer paid during the taxable year on a qualified long-term care insurance contract that offers coverage to either the individual, taxpayer, the individual'staxpayer's spouse, or a dependent for whom the individual taxpayer was allowed to deduct a personal exemption under section 151(c)(1)(A) of the Code for the taxable year. The credit allowed by this section may not exceed three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) for each qualified long-term care insurance contract for which a credit is claimed. The credit allowed under this section may not exceed the amount of tax imposed by this Part for the taxable year reduced by the sum of all credits allowed, except payments of tax made by or on behalf of the taxpayer. A nonresident or part-year resident who claims the credit allowed by this subsection shall reduce the amount of the credit by multiplying it by the fraction calculated under G.S. 105-134.5(b) or (c), as appropriate.

Filing StatusAGIMarried, filing jointly\$100,000Head of Household80,000Single60,000Married, filing separately50,000

(b) No Double Benefit. – No credit is allowed for payments that are deducted from, or not included in, the taxpayer's gross income for the taxable year. If the taxpayer claimed a deduction for health insurance costs of self-employed individuals under section 162(l) of the Code for the taxable year, the amount of credit otherwise allowed the taxpayer under this section is reduced by the applicable percentage provided in section 162(l) of the Code. If the taxpayer claimed a deduction for medical care expenses under section 213 of the Code for the taxable year, the taxpayer is not allowed a credit under this section. A taxpayer who claims the credit allowed by this section

must provide any information required by the Secretary to demonstrate that the amount paid for premiums for which the credit is claimed was not excluded from the taxpayer's gross income for the taxable year.

(c) Definition. – For purposes of this section, the term "qualified long-term care insurance contract" has the same meaning as defined in section 7702B of the Code."

**SECTION 31.5.(b)** G.S. 105-160.3(b)(7) is reenacted.

**SECTION 31.5.(c)** This section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

### ADOPTION TAX CREDIT

**SECTION 31.6.(a)** Part 2 of Article 4 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

"§ 105-151.32. Credit for adoption expenses.

- (a) Credit. An individual who is allowed a federal adoption tax credit under section 23 of the Code for the taxable year is allowed a credit against the tax imposed by this Part. The credit is equal to fifty percent (50%) of the amount of credit allowed under section 23 of the Code.
- (b) Limitations. A nonresident or part-year resident who claims the credit allowed by this section shall reduce the amount of the credit by multiplying it by the fraction calculated under G.S. 105-134.5(b) or (c), as appropriate. The credit allowed under this section may not exceed the amount of tax imposed by this Part for the taxable year reduced by the sum of all credits allowed, except payments of tax made by or on behalf of the taxpayer. Any unused portion of this credit may be carried forward for the next succeeding five years.
- (c) Sunset. This section is repealed effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013.

**SECTION 31.6.(b)** G.S. 105-160.3(b) reads as rewritten:

- "(b) The following credits are not allowed to an estate or trust:
  - (1) G.S. 105-151. Tax credits for income taxes paid to other states by individuals.
  - (2) G.S. 105-151.11. Credit for child care and certain employment-related expenses.
  - (3) G.S. 105-151.18. Credit for the disabled.
  - (4) G.S. 105-151.24. Credit for children.
  - (5) G.S. 105-151.26. Credit for charitable contributions by nonitemizers.
  - (6) Repealed by Session Laws 2004-170, s. 17, effective August 2, 2004.
  - (7) G.S. 105-151.28. Credit for long-term care insurance.
  - (8) G.S. 105-151.30. Credit for recycling oyster shells.
  - (10) G.S. 105-151.32. Credit for adoption expenses."

**SECTION 31.6.(c)** This section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007."

## PRIVILEGE TAX ON SOFTWARE PUBLISHERS' MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

**SECTION 31.7.(a)** G.S. 105-187.51B reads as rewritten:

- "§ 105-187.51B. Tax imposed on certain recyclers and research and development companies.
  - (a) Tax. A privilege tax is imposed on the following:

 (3) A software publishing company that is included in the industry group 5112 of NAICS and that purchases equipment or an attachment or repair part for equipment that meets all of the following requirements:

a. Is capitalized by the company for tax purposes under the Code.

b. Is used by the company in the research and development of tangible personal property.

c. Would be considered mill machinery under G.S. 105-187.51 if it were purchased by a manufacturing industry or plant and used in the research and development of tangible personal property manufactured by the industry or plant.

(b) Rate. – The tax is one percent (1%) of the sales price of the equipment or other tangible personal property. The maximum tax is eighty dollars (\$80.00) per article."

**SECTION 31.7.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007.

## ENHANCE TAX CREDIT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES

**SECTION 31.8.(a)** G.S. 105-129.55 reads as rewritten:

#### "§ 105-129.55. Credit for North Carolina research and development.

- (a) Qualified North Carolina Research Expenses. A taxpayer that has qualified North Carolina research expenses for the taxable year is allowed a credit equal to a percentage of the expenses, determined as provided in this subsection. Only one credit is allowed under this subsection with respect to the same expenses. If more than one subdivision of this subsection applies to the same expenses, then the credit is equal to the higher percentage, not both percentages combined. If part of the taxpayer's qualified North Carolina research expenses qualifies under subdivision (2) of this subsection and the remainder qualifies under subdivision (3) of this subsection, the applicable percentages apply separately to each part of the expenses.
  - (1) Small business. If the taxpayer was a small business as of the last day of the taxable year, the applicable percentage is three and one-quarter percent (3%).(3.25%).
  - (2) Low-tier research. For expenses with respect to research performed in a development tier one area, the applicable percentage is three <u>and one-quarter percent (3%).(3.25%).</u>
  - (3) Other research. For expenses not covered under subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection, the percentages provided in the table below apply to the taxpayer's qualified North Carolina research expenses during the taxable year at the following levels:

Expenses Over	Up To	Rate
-0-	\$50 million	<del>1%</del> 1.25%
\$50 million	\$200 million	<del>2%</del> 2.25%
\$200 million	_	<del>3%</del> 3.25%

(b) North Carolina University Research Expenses. – A taxpayer that has North Carolina university research expenses for the taxable year is allowed a credit equal to fifteen percent (15%) twenty percent (20%) of the expenses."

**SECTION 31.8.(b)** This section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

## MODIFY TAX CREDIT FOR CONSTRUCTING RENEWABLE FUEL FACILITIES

**SECTION 31.9.(a)** G.S. 105-129.16D(b1) reads as rewritten:

1 2 (b) of this section, a taxpayer that constructs and places in service in this State three or 3 more commercial facilities for processing renewable fuel and that invests a total amount 4 of at least four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000) in the facilities is allowed a 5 credit equal to thirty-five percent (35%) of the cost to the taxpayer of constructing and 6 equipping the facilities. In order to claim the credit, the taxpayer must obtain a written 7 determination from the Secretary of Commerce that the taxpayer is expected to invest 8 within a five-year period a total amount of at least four hundred million dollars 9 (\$400,000,000) in three or more facilities. The credit must be taken in seven equal annual installments beginning with the taxable year in which the first facility is placed 10 11 in service. If, in one of the years in which the installment of credit accrues, a facility 12 with respect to which the credit was claimed is disposed of or taken out of service and 13 the investment requirements of this subsection are no longer satisfied, the credit expires 14 and the taxpayer may not take any remaining installment of the credit. The taxpayer 15 may, however, take the portion of an installment that accrued in a previous year and was 16 carried forward to the extent permitted under G.S. 105-129.17. If a credit allowed under 17 this subsection expires, a taxpayer is not eligible for a credit under subsection (b) of this 18 section with respect to the same property. Notwithstanding the provisions of 19 G.S. 105-129.17, a taxpayer may claim the credit allowed under this subsection against 20 the income tax imposed under Article 4 of this Chapter only the credit allowed under 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30

this subsection may not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the tax against which it is claimed, and the taxpayer may carry forward unused portions of the credit allowed under this subsection for the succeeding 10 years." **SECTION 31.9.(b)** This section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

"(b1) Alternative Production Credit. – In lieu of the credit allowed under subsection

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#### EXPAND SALES AND USE TAX REFUND FOR CERTAIN AIRCRAFT **MANUFACTURERS**

**SECTION 31.10.(a)** G.S. 105-164.14(j)(3)b. reads as rewritten:

Industries. – This subsection applies to the following industries:

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Aircraft manufacturing. Aircraft manufacturing means the b. manufacturing or assembling of complete aircraft.aircraft or of aircraft engines, blisks, fuselage sections, flight decks, flight deck systems or components, wings, fuselage fairings, fins, moving leading and trailing wing edges, wing boxes, nose sections, tailplanes, passenger doors, nacelles, thrust reversers, landing gear, braking systems, or any combination thereof."

**SECTION 31.10.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to purchases made on or after that date.

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#### **ADJUST** TAX **RATE** $\mathbf{ON}$ **PROPERTY COVERAGE INSURANCE** CONTRACTS AND INCREASE THE DISTRIBUTION OF TAX PROCEEDS TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND

**SECTION 31.11.(a)** G.S. 105-228.5(d)(3), as amended by Section 3 of S.L. 2006-196, reads as rewritten:

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Additional Rate on Property Coverage Contracts. – An additional tax at the rate of eighty-five hundredths percent (.85%) seventy-four hundredths percent (0.74%) applies to gross premiums on insurance contracts for property coverage. The tax is imposed on ten percent (10%) of the gross premiums from insurance contracts for automobile

physical damage coverage and on one hundred percent (100%) of the gross premiums from all other contracts for property coverage. Twenty percent (20%) Thirty percent (30%) of the net proceeds of this additional tax must be credited to the Volunteer Fire Department Fund established in Article 87 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the net proceeds must be credited to the Department of Insurance for disbursement pursuant to G.S. 58-84-25. The remaining net proceeds must be credited to the General Fund.

The following definitions apply in this subdivision:

- a. Automobile physical damage. The following lines of business identified by the NAIC: private passenger automobile physical damage and commercial automobile physical damage.
- b. Property coverage. The following lines of business identified by the NAIC: fire, farm owners multiple peril, homeowners multiple peril, nonliability portion of commercial multiple peril, ocean marine, inland marine, earthquake, private passenger automobile physical damage, commercial automobile physical damage, aircraft, and boiler and machinery. The term also includes insurance contracts for wind damage.
- c. NAIC. National Association of Insurance Commissioners."

**SECTION 31.11.(b)** G.S. 58-84-25, as amended by Section 7 of S.L. 2006-196, reads as rewritten:

#### "§ 58-84-25. Disbursement of funds by Insurance Commissioner.

- (a) <u>Distribution.</u>—The Insurance Commissioner shall deduct the sum of three percent (3%) from the tax proceeds credited to the Department pursuant to G.S. 105-228.5(d)(3) and pay the same over to the treasurer of the State Firemen's Association for general purposes. The Insurance Commissioner shall deduct the sum of two percent (2%) from the tax proceeds and retain the same in the budget of the Department of Insurance for the purpose of administering the disbursement of funds by the board of trustees in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 58-84-35. The Insurance Commissioner shall, pursuant to G.S. 58-84-50, credit the amount forfeited by nonmember fire districts to the North Carolina State Firemen's Association. The Insurance Commissioner shall <u>pay-distribute</u> the remaining tax proceeds to the treasurer of each fire district as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.
- (b) Allocation to Counties. on a per capita basis, using the most recent annual population estimates certified by the State Budget Officer. The Insurance Commissioner shall allocate to each county an amount of tax proceeds based upon the amount allocated to it in the previous year. If the amount allocable in the current year is less than the amount allocated in the previous year, then the Commissioner shall reduce the amount allocated to each county. The amount of the reduction is equal to the difference in the amount allocated in the previous year and the amount allocable in the current year multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the population of the county and the denominator of which is the population of the State. If the amount allocable in the current year is greater than the amount allocated in the previous year, then the Commissioner shall increase the amount allocated to each county. The amount of the increase is equal to the excess proceeds multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the population of the State.
- (c) <u>Distribution to Fire Districts. Once the Insurance Commissioner has allocated the tax proceeds to a county under subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner shall distribute those allocations to the fire districts in that county. The</u>

amount distributed to each fire district is equal to the total amount allocated to the county multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the tax value of the property located in the fire district and the denominator of which is the tax value of all property located in any fire district in that county. A county shall provide the Commissioner with the tax value of property located in each fire district in that county by January 1 of each year. If a county does not submit information that the Commissioner needs to make a distribution by the date the information is due, the Commissioner shall distribute the allocation based on the most recent information the Commissioner has.

(d) Administration. – These funds shall be held by the treasurer of a fire district as a separate and distinct fund. The fire district shall immediately pay the funds to the treasurer of the local board of trustees upon the treasurer's election and qualification, for the use of the board of trustees of the firemen's local relief fund in each fire district, which board shall be composed of five members, residents of the fire district as hereinafter provided for, to be used by it for the purposes provided in G.S. 58-84-35."

**SECTION 31.11.(c)** G.S. 58-87-1, as amended by Section 8 of S.L. 2006-196, reads as rewritten:

#### "§ 58-87-1. Volunteer Fire Department Fund.

- (a) Fund. The Volunteer Fire Department Fund is created as an interest-bearing, nonreverting fund in the Department to provide matching grants to volunteer fire departments to purchase equipment and make capital improvements. The Commissioner shall administer the Fund. Up to two percent (2%) of the Fund may be used for additional staff and resources to administer the Fund in each fiscal year.
- (a1) Grant Program. An eligible fire department may apply to the Commissioner for a grant under this section. In awarding grants under this section, the Commissioner must, to the extent possible, select applicants from all parts of the State based upon need. The Commissioner must award the grants on May 15 of each year subject to the following limitations:
  - (1) The size of a grant may not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000).
  - (2) The applicant shall match the grant on a dollar-for-dollar basis; basis.
  - (3) The grant may be used only for equipment purchases, payment of highway use taxes on those purchases, or capital expenditures necessary to provide fire protection services; and services.
  - (4) An applicant may receive no more than one grant per fiscal year.
- (b) Eligible Fire Department. A fire department is eligible for a grant under this section if it meets all of the conditions of this subsection. No fire department may be declared ineligible for a grant solely because it is classified as a municipal fire department.
  - (1) It serves a response area of 6,00012,000 or less in population. In making the population determination, the Department must use the most recent annual population estimates certified by the State Budget Officer.
  - (2) It consists entirely of volunteer members, with the exception that the unit may have paid members to fill the equivalent of three-six full-time paid positions.
  - (3) It has been certified by the Department of Insurance.
- (c) Report. The Commissioner must submit a written report to the General Assembly within 60 days after the grants have been made. This report must contain the amount of the grant and the name of the recipient."
- **SECTION 31.11.(d)** Notwithstanding G.S. 58-84-25, as amended by this section, for the initial allocation of tax proceeds after January 1, 2008, the Insurance

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**SECTION 31.11.(e)** Subsection (a) of this section is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008. The remainder of this section becomes effective January 1, 2008.

#### SET INSURANCE REGULATORY FEE

**SECTION 31.12.(a)** The percentage rate to be used in calculating the insurance regulatory charge under G.S. 58-6-25 is five and one-half percent (5.5%) for the 2007 calendar year.

**SECTION 31.12.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law.

#### SET REGULATORY FEE FOR UTILITIES COMMISSION

**SECTION 31.13.(a)** The percentage rate to be used in calculating the public utility regulatory fee under G.S. 62-302(b)(2) is twelve one-hundredths of one percent (0.12%) for each public utility's North Carolina jurisdictional revenues earned during each quarter that begins on or after July 1, 2007.

**SECTION 31.13.(b)** The electric membership corporation regulatory fee imposed under G.S. 62-302(b1) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year is two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000).

**SECTION 31.13.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007.

#### AMEND SALES TAX HOLIDAY

**SECTION 31.14.(a)** G.S. 105-164.3 reads as rewritten:

#### "§ 105-164.3. Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this Article:

- (37b) School instructional material. Defined in the Streamlined Agreement.
- (37d) School supply. An item that is commonly used by a student in the course of study and is considered a 'school supply', a 'school art supply', or 'school instructional material' supply' or 'school art supply' under the Streamlined Agreement.

### **SECTION 31.14.(b)** G.S. 105-164.13C(a) reads as rewritten:

- The taxes imposed by this Article do not apply to the following items of tangible personal property if sold between 12:01 A.M. on the first Friday of August and 11:59 P.M. the following Sunday:
  - (1) Clothing with a sales price of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or less per
  - (2) School supplies with a sales price of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or less per item.
  - (2a) School instructional materials with a sales price of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or less per item.
  - Computers with a sales price of three thousand five hundred dollars (3) (\$3,500) or less per item.
  - Computer supplies with a sales price of two hundred fifty dollars (3a) (\$250.00) or less per item.

(4) Sport or recreational equipment with a sales price of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or less per item.

**SECTION 31.14.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2007, and applies to sales made on or after that date.

#### PART XXXII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

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#### STATE BUDGET ACT APPLIES

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**SECTION 32.1.** The provisions of the State Budget Act, Chapter 143C of the General Statutes, are reenacted and shall remain in full force and effect and are incorporated in this act by reference.

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#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

**SECTION 32.2.(a)** The N.C. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee Report on the Continuation, Expansion and Capital Budgets House Bill 1473 Committee Substitute, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, dated May 9, 2007, which was distributed in the House of Representatives and used to explain this act, shall indicate action by the General Assembly on this act and shall therefore be used to construe this act, as provided in the State Budget Act, Chapter 143C of the General Statutes, or the Executive Budget Act, Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, as appropriate, and for these purposes shall be considered a part of this act and as such shall be printed as a part of the Session Laws.

**SECTION 32.2.(b)** The budget enacted by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the various departments, institutions, and other spending agencies of the State for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium is a line-item budget, in accordance with the Budget Code Structure and the State Accounting System Uniform Chart of Accounts set out in the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual of the Office of the State Controller. This budget includes the appropriations made from all sources, including the General Fund, Highway Fund, special funds, cash balances, federal receipts, and departmental receipts.

The Director of the Budget submitted the itemized budget requests to the General Assembly in February 2007, in the documents "The North Carolina State Budget Summary of Recommendations 2007-2009" and "The North Carolina State Budget 2007-2009 Recommended Operating Budget With Results-Based Information" volumes one through six. The beginning appropriation for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and the 2008-2009 fiscal year for the various departments, institutions, and other spending agencies of the State is referenced in Tables 3 and 4 of the Summary of Recommendations document as the recommended continuation budget.

**SECTION 32.2.(c)** The budget enacted by the General Assembly shall also be interpreted in accordance with G.S. 143C-5-5, the special provisions in this act, and other appropriate legislation.

In the event that there is a conflict between the line-item budget certified by the Director of the Budget and the budget enacted by the General Assembly, the budget enacted by the General Assembly shall prevail.

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#### MOST TEXT APPLIES ONLY TO THE 2007-2009 FISCAL BIENNIUM

**SECTION 32.3.** Except for statutory changes or other provisions that clearly indicate an intention to have effects beyond the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, the textual provisions of this act apply only to funds appropriated for, and activities occurring during, the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium.

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### **EFFECT OF HEADINGS**

**SECTION 32.4.** The headings to the parts and sections of this act are a convenience to the reader and are for reference only. The headings do not expand, limit, or define the text of this act, except for effective dates referring to a part.

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#### **SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

If any section or provision of this act is declared SECTION 32.5. unconstitutional or invalid by the courts, it does not affect the validity of this act as a whole or any part other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

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#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

**SECTION 32.6.** Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2007.