

1 the initial appointment. The Committee shall meet on the call of the Chair. A quorum of the
2 Committee shall be a majority of its members.

3 **SECTION 2.** The Committee shall examine any issues or matters which would
4 impact on the preservation of the customs and culture of Indian children who are not covered
5 under the ICWA, and who are the subject of legal proceedings in State courts, including, but
6 not limited, to adoption, custody, and visitation. The House Select Committee may study:

- 7 (1) Current State laws applicable to family-related legal proceedings and their
8 impact on retention of the cultural heritage of child members of Indian
9 tribes.
- 10 (2) Guidelines for local departments of social service agencies that would
11 implement the same or similar policies and practices that are applicable to
12 Indian children under federal law.
- 13 (3) The creation of a State council or commission, to include members of Indian
14 tribes, State and local social services agencies, the judiciary, and other
15 appropriate officials to recommend policies and procedures to the General
16 Assembly.
- 17 (4) Any other matter that is relevant to promoting the preservation of the
18 customs and culture of Indian children who are the subject of legal
19 proceedings in State courts.

20 **SECTION 3.** While in the discharge of its official duties, the Committee may
21 exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.
22 Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as
23 provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate. With the prior approval of the
24 Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and
25 clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The House of Representatives shall assign
26 clerical staff to the Committee. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or
27 consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. The Committee may meet in the
28 Legislative Building or Legislative Office Building and may meet at various locations around
29 the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations.

30 **SECTION 4.** The Committee shall submit a final report to the 2010 Regular
31 Session of the 2009 General Assembly and may submit interim reports as it deems necessary.
32 The Committee shall terminate upon filing its final report or upon the convening of the 2010
33 Regular Session of the 2009 General Assembly, whichever comes first.

34 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.