

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**HOUSE DRH30309-LU-85 (3/13)**

Short Title: Pre-Serv.Train'g Exempt./Certain CPS Workers. (Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Farmer-Butterfield and Moore (Primary Sponsors).

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE PRESERVICE TRAINING REQUIREMENT PURSUANT TO LAWS REQUIRING TRAINING BY THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND REQUIRING THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO DEVELOP OR ALLOW ALTERNATIVE MODELS OF DELIVERING TRAINING TO CHILD WELFARE SERVICES WORKERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 131D-10.6A reads as rewritten:

**"§ 131D-10.6A. Training by the Division of Social Services required.**

(a) The Division of Social Services, Department of Health and Human Services, shall require a minimum of 30 hours of preservice training for foster care parents either prior to licensure or within six months from the date a provisional license is issued pursuant to G.S.131D-10.3, and a mandated minimum of 10 hours of continuing education for all foster care parents annually after the year in which a license is obtained.

(b) **(See Editor's Note)** The Division of Social Services shall establish minimum training requirements for child welfare services staff. The minimum training requirements established by the Division are as follows:

(1) Child welfare services workers shall complete a minimum of 72 hours of preservice training before assuming direct client contact responsibilities. In completing this requirement, the Division of Social Services shall ensure that each child welfare worker receives training on family centered practices and State and federal law regarding the basic rights of individuals relevant to the provision of child welfare services, including the right to privacy, freedom from duress and coercion to induce cooperation, and the right to parent.

- 1 (2) Child protective services workers shall complete a minimum of 18  
2 hours of additional training that the Division of Social Services  
3 determines is necessary to adequately meet training needs.
- 4 (3) Foster care and adoption workers shall complete a minimum of 39  
5 hours of additional training that the Division of Social Services  
6 determines is necessary to adequately meet training needs.
- 7 (4) Child welfare services supervisors shall complete a minimum of 72  
8 hours of preservice training before assuming supervisory  
9 responsibilities and a minimum of 54 hours of additional training that  
10 the Division of Social Services determines is necessary to adequately  
11 meet training needs.
- 12 (5) Child welfare services staff shall complete 24 hours of continuing  
13 education annually. In completing this requirement, the Division of  
14 Social Services shall provide each child welfare services staff member  
15 with annual update information on family centered practices and State  
16 and federal law regarding the basic rights of individuals relevant to the  
17 provision of child welfare services, including the right to privacy,  
18 freedom from duress and coercion to induce cooperation, and the right  
19 to parent.

20 The Division of Social Services may grant an exception in whole or in part to the  
21 requirement under subdivision (1) of this subsection to child welfare workers who  
22 satisfactorily complete or are enrolled in a masters or bachelors program after July 1,  
23 1999, from a North Carolina social work program accredited pursuant to the Council on  
24 Social Work Education. The program's curricula must cover the specific preservice  
25 training requirements as established by the Division of Social Services. The Division of  
26 Social Services shall also grant an exception in whole or in part to the requirement  
27 under subdivision (1) of this subsection to child welfare workers who have obtained a  
28 bachelor's or master's degree from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work  
29 Education and to child welfare services workers with social work experience, pursuant  
30 to rules adopted by the Division of Social Services.

31 The Division of Social Services shall ensure that training opportunities are available  
32 for county departments of social services and consolidated human service agencies to  
33 meet the training requirements of this subsection.

34 (c) In an effort to ensure flexibility in the delivery of training for child welfare  
35 services workers, the Division of Social Services shall develop or allow alternative  
36 models of delivering training to child welfare services workers, which shall include  
37 concentrated hours, such as the completion of the 72 hours of preservice training  
38 delivered in a consecutive two-week period, evening, or weekend training models, or  
39 online training. The Division of Social Services shall adopt rules to implement this  
40 subsection."

41 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.