

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017**

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HOUSE BILL 908

Short Title: Enhance Scholarships for Adopted Children. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Beasley, Autry, and R. Moore (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Appropriations

April 26, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE CHILD WELFARE POSTSECONDARY SUPPORT
2 PROGRAM (NC REACH) BY LOWERING THE AGE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIAL
3 NEEDS CHILDREN ADOPTED FROM FOSTER CARE AND TO APPROPRIATE
4 FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Beginning in the 2017-2018 academic year, the Department of
8 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, shall expand the child welfare
9 postsecondary support program (NC REACH), which is a program that provides assistance
10 with the "cost of attendance" as that term is defined in 20 U.S.C. § 108711 for the education
11 needs of certain foster care youth, by lowering the eligibility age for special needs children
12 adopted from foster care from 12 years of age to eight years of age.

13 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
14 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, the sum of one million three hundred
15 thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and the sum of one million three
16 hundred thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year to implement the
17 provisions of this act.

18 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2017.

