

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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HOUSE BILL 1679
Committee Substitute Favorable 7/3/90
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Short Title: Handicapped Education Age Change.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 4, 1989

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE EARLY INTERVENTION, DEVELOPMENTAL
3 SERVICES, AND EDUCATION TO HANDICAPPED CHILDREN FROM BIRTH
4 TO FIVE YEARS OF AGE.

5 Whereas, the General Assembly finds that there is an urgent and substantial
6 need to enhance the development of children from birth to their fifth birthday, including
7 infants and toddlers, with or at risk for handicapping conditions and to minimize their
8 potential for developmental delay; and

9 Whereas, the General Assembly finds that there is an urgent and substantial
10 need to enhance the capacity of families to meet the special needs of their children from
11 birth to their fifth birthday, including infants and toddlers, who have handicapping
12 conditions; Now, therefore,

13 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

14 Section 1. Article 3 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by
15 adding a new Part to read:

16 **“PART 13A. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR**
17 **HANDICAPPED**
18 **CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO FIVE YEARS OF AGE.**

19 **”§ 143B-179.5. Interagency Coordinating Council for Handicapped Children from**
20 **Birth to Five Years of Age; establishment, composition, organization;**
21 **duties, compensation, reporting.**

1 (a) There is established an Interagency Coordinating Council for Handicapped
2 Children from Birth to Five Years of Age in the Department of Human Resources.

3 (b) The Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Intervention Services shall
4 have 20 members, appointed by the Governor, for terms of two years and until their
5 successors are appointed and qualify. The Governor shall have the power to remove
6 any member of the Council from office in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 143B-
7 16. Any appointment to fill a vacancy on the Council created by the resignation,
8 dismissal, death, or disability of a member shall be for the balance of the unexpired
9 term. Members may succeed themselves for one term and may be appointed again, after
10 being off the Council for one term.

11 The composition of the Council shall be as follows:

12 (1) At least three members who are parents of infants or toddlers eligible
13 for services pursuant to G.S. 122C-3(13a) or of handicapped children
14 aged three through six;

15 (2) At least three other members who are providers of early intervention
16 services;

17 (3) Two members of the Senate, appointed from recommendations of the
18 President of the Senate, and two members of the House of
19 Representatives, appointed from recommendations of the Speaker;

20 (4) At least one other member who is a person involved in staff
21 development;

22 (5) Other members who represent the Department of Public Instruction,
23 the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Environment,
24 Health, and Natural Resources, and other appropriate agencies
25 involved in the provision of or payment for early intervention services
26 to infants and toddlers and their families; and

27 (6) At least two members to represent the public at large.

28 (c) At the first meeting following the appointments, the Council shall elect a
29 parent and a professional as cochairs, who may establish those standing and ad hoc
30 committees and task forces as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the
31 Council and appoint Council members or other individuals to serve on these committees
32 and task forces. The Council shall meet at least quarterly. A majority of the Council
33 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

34 (d) The Council shall advise the Departments of Human Resources, and
35 Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, and of other appropriate agencies in
36 carrying out their early intervention services and the Department of Public Instruction,
37 and other appropriate agencies, in their activities related to the provision of special
38 education services for preschoolers. The Council shall specifically address in its studies
39 and evaluations that it considers necessary to its advising:

40 (1) The identification of sources of fiscal and other support for the early
41 intervention system;

42 (2) The development of policies related to the early intervention services;

43 (3) The preparation of applications for available federal funds;

44 (4) The resolution of interagency disputes; and

1 (5) The promotion of interagency agreements.

2 (e) Members of the Council and parents on ad hoc committees and task forces of
3 the Council shall receive travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with the
4 provisions of G.S. 138-5.

5 (f) The Council shall prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor and to
6 the General Assembly on the status of the early intervention system for eligible infants
7 and toddlers and on the status of special education services for preschoolers.

8 All clerical and other services required by the Council shall be supplied by the
9 Secretary of Human Resources and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, as
10 specified by the interagency agreement authorized by G.S. 122C-112(a)(13).

11 **"§ 143B-179.6. Interagency Coordinating Council for Handicapped Children from**
12 **Birth to Five Years of Age; agency cooperation.**

13 All appropriate agencies, including the Department of Human Resources, the
14 Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, and the Department of
15 Public Instruction, and other public and private service providers shall cooperate with
16 the Council in carrying out its mandate."

17 Sec. 2. G.S. 122C-3 reads as rewritten:

18 **"§ 122C-3. Definitions.**

19 As used in this Chapter, unless another meaning is specified or the context clearly
20 requires otherwise, the following terms have the meanings specified:

21 (1) 'Area authority' means the area mental health, developmental
22 disabilities, and substance abuse authority.

23 (2) 'Area board' means the area mental health, developmental disabilities,
24 and substance abuse board.

25 (3) 'Camp Butner reservation' means the original Camp Butner reservation
26 as may be designated by the Secretary as having been acquired by the
27 State and includes not only areas which are owned and occupied by the
28 State but also those which may have been leased or otherwise disposed
29 of by the State.

30 (4) 'City' has the same meaning as in G.S. 153A-1(1).

31 (5) 'Catchment area' means the geographic part of the State served by a
32 specific area authority.

33 (6) 'Client' means an individual who is admitted to and receiving service
34 from, or who in the past had been admitted to and received services
35 from, a facility.

36 (7) 'Client advocate' means a person whose role is to monitor the
37 protection of client rights or to act as an individual advocate on behalf
38 of a particular client in a facility.

39 (8) 'Commission' means the Commission for Mental Health,
40 Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services,
41 established under Part 4 of Article 3 of Chapter 143B of the General
42 Statutes.

43 (9) 'Confidential information' means any information, whether recorded or
44 not, relating to an individual served by a facility that was received in

1 connection with the performance of any function of the facility.
2 'Confidential information' does not include statistical information from
3 reports and records or information regarding treatment or services
4 which is shared for training, treatment, habilitation, or monitoring
5 purposes that does not identify clients either directly or by reference to
6 publicly known or available information.

7 (10) 'County of residence' of a client means the county of his domicile at
8 the time of his admission or commitment to a facility. A county of
9 residence is not changed because an individual is temporarily out of
10 his county in a facility or otherwise.

11 (11) 'Dangerous to himself or others' means:

12 a. 'Dangerous to himself' means that within the relevant past:

13 1. The individual has acted in such a way as to show:

14 I. That he would be unable, without care,
15 supervision, and the continued assistance of
16 others not otherwise available, to exercise self-
17 control, judgment, and discretion in the conduct
18 of his daily responsibilities and social relations, or
19 to satisfy his need for nourishment, personal or
20 medical care, shelter, or self-protection and
21 safety; and

22 II. That there is a reasonable probability of his
23 suffering serious physical debilitation within the
24 near future unless adequate treatment is given
25 pursuant to this Chapter. A showing of behavior
26 that is grossly irrational, of actions that the
27 individual is unable to control, of behavior that is
28 grossly inappropriate to the situation, or of other
29 evidence of severely impaired insight and
30 judgment shall create a **prima facie** inference that
31 the individual is unable to care for himself; or

32 2. The individual has attempted suicide or threatened
33 suicide and that there is a reasonable probability of
34 suicide unless adequate treatment is given pursuant to
35 this Chapter; or

36 3. The individual has mutilated himself or attempted to
37 mutilate himself and that there is a reasonable
38 probability of serious self-mutilation unless adequate
39 treatment is given pursuant to this Chapter.

40 Previous episodes of dangerousness to self, when applicable, may be
41 considered when determining reasonable probability of physical
42 debilitation, suicide, or self-mutilation.

43 b. 'Dangerous to others' means that within the relevant past, the
44 individual has inflicted or attempted to inflict or threatened to

1 inflict serious bodily harm on another, or has acted in such
2 way as to create a substantial risk of serious bodily harm to
3 another, or has engaged in extreme destruction of property; and
4 that there is a reasonable probability that this conduct will be
5 repeated. Previous episodes of dangerousness to others, when
6 applicable, may be considered when determining reasonable
7 probability of future dangerous conduct. Clear, cogent, and
8 convincing evidence that an individual has committed a
9 homicide in the relevant past is **prima facie** evidence of
10 dangerousness to others.

11 (12) 'Department' means the North Carolina Department of Human
12 Resources.

13 (12a) 'Developmental disability' means a severe, chronic disability of a
14 person which:

- 15 a. Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or
16 combination of mental and physical impairments;
- 17 b. Is manifested before the person attains age 22, unless the
18 disability is caused by a traumatic head injury and is manifested
19 after age 22;
- 20 c. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
- 21 d. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of
22 the following areas of major life activity: self-care, receptive
23 and expressive language, capacity for independent living,
24 learning, mobility, self-direction and economic self-sufficiency;
25 and
- 26 e. Reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of
27 special interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other
28 services which are of a lifelong or extended duration and are
29 individually planned and coordinated; or
- 30 f. When applied to children from birth through four years of age,
31 may be evidenced as a developmental delay.

32 (13) 'Division' means the Division of Mental Health, Developmental
33 Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services of the Department.

34 (13a) 'Eligible infants and toddlers' means children with or at risk for
35 developmental delays or atypical development until:

- 36 a. They have reached their third birthday; and
- 37 b. Their parents have requested to have them receive services in
38 the preschool program for handicapped children established
39 pursuant to Part 14 of Article IX of Chapter 115C of the
40 General Statutes; and
- 41 c. They have been placed in the program by the local educational
42 agency.

1 In no event shall a child be considered an eligible toddler after the
2 beginning of the school year immediately following the child's third
3 birthday.

4 The early intervention services that may be provided for these
5 children and their families include early identification and screening,
6 multidisciplinary evaluations, case management services, family
7 training, counseling and home visits, psychological services, speech
8 pathology and audiology, and occupational and physical therapy. All
9 evaluations performed as part of early intervention services shall be
10 appropriate to the individual child's age and development.

11 (13a b) 'Eligible psychologist' means a licensed practicing psychologist
12 who has at least two years' clinical experience.

13 (14) 'Facility' means any person at one location whose primary
14 purpose is to provide services for the care, treatment,
15 habilitation, or rehabilitation of the mentally ill, the
16 developmentally disabled, or substance abusers, and includes:

17 a. An 'area facility', which is a facility that is operated by
18 or under contract with the area authority. A facility that
19 is providing services under contract with the area
20 authority is an area facility for purposes of the contracted
21 services only. Area facilities may also be licensable
22 facilities in accordance with Article 2 of this Chapter. A
23 State facility is not an area facility;

24 b. A 'licensable facility', which is a facility that provides
25 services for one or more minors or for two or more
26 adults. When the services offered are provided to
27 individuals who are mentally ill or developmentally
28 disabled, these services shall be day services offered to
29 the same individual for a period of three hours or more
30 during a 24-hour period, or residential services provided
31 for 24 consecutive hours or more. When the services
32 offered are provided to individuals who are substance
33 abusers, these services shall include all outpatient
34 services, day services offered to the same individual for
35 a period of three hours or more during a 24-hour period,
36 or residential services provided for 24 consecutive hours
37 or more. Facilities for individuals who are substance
38 abusers include chemical dependency facilities;

39 c. A 'private facility', which is a facility that is either a
40 licensable facility or a special unit of a general hospital
41 or a part of either in which the specific service provided
42 is not covered under the terms of a contract with an area
43 authority;

- 1 d. The psychiatric service of the University of North
 2 Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill;
- 3 e. A 'residential facility', which is a 24-hour facility that is
 4 not a hospital, including a group home;
- 5 f. A 'State facility', which is a facility that is operated by
 6 the Secretary;
- 7 g. A '24-hour facility', which is a facility that provides a
 8 structured living environment and services for a period
 9 of 24 consecutive hours or more and includes hospitals
 10 that are facilities under this Chapter; and
- 11 h. A Veterans Administration facility or part thereof that
 12 provides services for the care, treatment, habilitation, or
 13 rehabilitation of the mentally ill, the developmentally
 14 disabled, or substance abusers.
- 15 (15) 'Guardian' means a person appointed as a guardian of the person
 16 or general guardian by the court under Chapters 7A, 33, or 35A
 17 of the General Statutes.
- 18 (16) 'Habilitation' means training, care, and specialized therapies
 19 undertaken to assist a client in maintaining his current level of
 20 functioning or in achieving progress in developmental skills
 21 areas.
- 22 (17) 'Incompetent adult' means an adult individual adjudicated
 23 incompetent.
- 24 (18) 'Intoxicated' means the condition of an individual whose mental
 25 or physical functioning is presently substantially impaired as a
 26 result of the use of alcohol or other substance.
- 27 (19) 'Law-enforcement officer' means sheriff, deputy sheriff, police
 28 officer, State highway patrolman, or an officer employed by a
 29 city or county under G.S. 122C-302.
- 30 (20) 'Legally responsible person' means: (i) when applied to an adult,
 31 who has been adjudicated incompetent, a guardian; or (ii) when
 32 applied to a minor, a parent, guardian, a person standing **in loco**
 33 **parentis**, or a legal custodian other than a parent who has been
 34 granted specific authority by law or in a custody order to consent
 35 for medical care, including psychiatric treatment.
- 36 (21) 'Mental illness' means: (i) when applied to an adult, an illness
 37 which so lessens the capacity of the individual to use self-
 38 control, judgment, and discretion in the conduct of his affairs
 39 and social relations as to make it necessary or advisable for him
 40 to be under treatment, care, supervision, guidance, or control;
 41 and (ii) when applied to a minor, a mental condition, other than
 42 mental retardation alone, that so impairs the youth's capacity to
 43 exercise age adequate self-control or judgment in the conduct of

- 1 his activities and social relationships so that he is in need of
2 treatment.
- 3 (22) 'Mental retardation' means significantly subaverage general
4 intellectual functioning existing concurrently with deficits in
5 adaptive behavior and manifested before age 22.
- 6 (23) 'Mentally retarded with accompanying behavior disorder' means
7 an individual who is mentally retarded and who has a pattern of
8 maladaptive behavior that is recognizable no later than
9 adolescence and is characterized by gross outbursts of rage or
10 physical aggression against other individuals or property.
- 11 (24) 'Next of kin' means the individual designated in writing by the
12 client or his legally responsible person upon the client's
13 acceptance at a facility; provided that if no such designation has
14 been made, 'next of kin' means the client's spouse or nearest
15 blood relation in accordance with G.S. 104A-1.
- 16 (25) 'Operating costs' means expenditures made by an area authority
17 in the delivery of services for mental health, developmental
18 disabilities, and substance abuse as provided in this Chapter and
19 includes the employment of legal counsel on a temporary basis
20 to represent the interests of the area authority.
- 21 (26) Repealed by Session Laws 1987, c. 345, s. 1.
- 22 (27) 'Outpatient treatment' as used in Part 7 of Article 5 means
23 treatment in an outpatient setting and may include medication,
24 individual or group therapy, day or partial day programming
25 activities, services and training including educational and
26 vocational activities, supervision of living arrangements, and
27 any other services prescribed either to alleviate the individual's
28 illness or disability, to maintain semi-independent functioning,
29 or to prevent further deterioration that may reasonably be
30 predicted to result in the need for inpatient commitment to a 24-
31 hour facility.
- 32 (28) 'Person' means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation,
33 company, association, joint stock association, agency, or area
34 authority.
- 35 (29) 'Physician' means an individual licensed to practice medicine in
36 North Carolina under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes or a
37 licensed medical doctor employed by the Veterans
38 Administration.
- 39 (30) 'Provider of support services' means a person that provides to a
40 facility support services such as data processing, dosage
41 preparation, laboratory analyses, or legal, medical, accounting,
42 or other professional services, including human services.

- 1 (30a) 'Psychologist' means an individual licensed to practice
 2 psychology under Chapter 90. The term 'eligible psychologist' is
 3 defined in subdivision (13a).
- 4 (31) 'Qualified professional' means any individual with appropriate
 5 training or experience as specified by the General Statutes or by
 6 rule of the Commission in the fields of mental health or
 7 developmental disabilities or substance abuse treatment or
 8 habilitation, including physicians, psychologists, psychological
 9 associates, educators, social workers, registered nurses, and
 10 certified counselors.
- 11 (32) 'Responsible professional' means an individual within a facility
 12 who is designated by the facility director to be responsible for
 13 the care, treatment, habilitation, or rehabilitation of a specific
 14 client and who is eligible to provide care, treatment, habilitation,
 15 or rehabilitation relative to the client's disability.
- 16 (33) 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Department of Human
 17 Resources.
- 18 (34) 'Single portal of entry and exit policy' means an admission and
 19 discharge policy for State and area facilities that may be adopted
 20 by an area authority and shall be approved by the Secretary
 21 before it is in force. The policy and its provisions shall be
 22 designed to promote quality client care in and among State and
 23 area facilities. Furthermore, the policy shall be designed to
 24 integrate otherwise independent facilities into a unified and
 25 coordinated system, in which system the area authority shall be
 26 responsible for assuring that the individual client can receive
 27 services from the facility that is best able to meet his needs.
 28 However, the policy may not be inconsistent with any other
 29 provisions of the General Statutes, nor may the policy include
 30 the complete exclusion of clients from admission to any specific
 31 State or area facility.
- 32 (35) 'Single portal area' means the county or counties that comprise
 33 the catchment area of an area authority that has adopted a single
 34 portal of entry and exit policy.
- 35 (36) 'Substance abuse' means the pathological use or abuse of
 36 alcohol or other drugs in a way or to a degree that produces an
 37 impairment in personal, social, or occupational functioning.
 38 'Substance abuse' may include a pattern of tolerance and
 39 withdrawal.
- 40 (37) 'Substance abuser' means an individual who engages in
 41 substance abuse."

42 Sec. 3. G.S. 122C-112(a) reads as rewritten:

43 **"§ 122C-112. Powers and duties of the Secretary.**

- 44 (a) The Secretary shall:

- 1 (1) Enforce the provisions of this Chapter and the rules of the
2 Commission and the Secretary;
- 3 (2) Assist counties and area authorities in the establishment and
4 operation of community-based programs within catchment areas
5 specified in rules adopted by the Commission;
- 6 (3) Operate State facilities and adopt rules pertaining to their
7 operation;
- 8 (4) Promote a unified system of services for the citizens of this State
9 by coordinating services provided in State facilities and area
10 facilities;
- 11 (5) Approve the plans and budgets of an area authority and adopt
12 rules pertaining to the content and format of these plans and
13 budgets;
- 14 (6) Adopt rules governing the expenditure of all area authority
15 funds;
- 16 (7) Adopt rules for the establishment of single portal designation
17 and approve an area as a single portal area;
- 18 (8) Except as provided in G.S. 122C-26(4), adopt rules establishing
19 procedures for waiver of rules adopted by the Secretary under
20 this Chapter;
- 21 (9) Notify the clerks of superior court of changes in the designation
22 of State facility regions and of facilities designated under G.S.
23 122C-252;
- 24 (10) Promote public awareness and understanding of mental health,
25 mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse;
- 26 (11) Administer and enforce rules that are conditions of participation
27 in federal or State financial aid; ~~and~~
- 28 (12) Carry out ~~G.S. 122C-361.~~ G.S. 122C-361; and
- 29 (13) Coordinate and facilitate the development and administration of
30 the early intervention system for eligible infants and toddlers
31 and shall assign among the cooperating agencies the
32 responsibility, including financial responsibility, for services.
33 The Secretary shall be advised by the Interagency Coordinating
34 Council for Handicapped Children from Birth to Five Years of
35 Age, established by G.S. 143B-179.5, and may enter into formal
36 interagency agreements to establish the collaborative
37 relationships with the Department of Environment, Health, and
38 Natural Resources, the Department of Public Instruction, other
39 appropriate agencies, and other public and private service
40 providers necessary to administer the system and deliver the
41 services.
42 The Secretary shall adopt rules to implement the early
43 intervention system, in cooperation with all other appropriate
44 agencies."

1 Sec. 4. G.S. 122C-146 reads as rewritten:

2 **"§ 122C-146. Fee for service.**

3 The area authority and its contractual agencies shall prepare fee schedules for
4 services and shall make every reasonable effort to collect appropriate reimbursement for
5 costs in providing these services from individuals able to pay, including insurance and
6 third-party ~~payment~~-payment, except that individuals may not be charged for services
7 involving multidisciplinary evaluations, intervention plan development, and case
8 management services provided to eligible infants and toddlers and their families. This
9 exemption from charges does not exempt insurers or other third party payors from being
10 charged for payment for these services. However, no individual may be refused
11 services because of an inability to pay. All funds collected from fees from area authority
12 operated services shall be used for the fiscal operation or capital improvements of the
13 area authority's programs. The collection of fees by an area authority may not be used as
14 justification for reduction or replacement of the budgeted commitment of local tax
15 revenue."

16 Sec. 5. Article IX of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
17 adding a new Part to read:

18 **"PART 14. HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, AGES THREE TO FIVE.**

19 **"§ 115C-146.1. Definitions.**

20 The term 'preschool handicapped children' means all handicapped children:

- 21 (1) Who have reached their third birthday and whose parents have
22 requested services from the public schools, which services shall start
23 no later than the beginning of the school year immediately following
24 the children's third birthday;
25 (2) Who are not eligible to enroll in public kindergarten; and
26 (3) Who, because of permanent or temporary mental, physical, or
27 emotional handicaps, need special education and related services in
28 order to prepare them to benefit from the educational programs
29 provided by the public schools, beginning with kindergarten. This
30 term includes children who are mentally retarded, learning disabled,
31 seriously emotionally disturbed, autistic, cerebral palsied,
32 orthopedically impaired, hearing impaired, speech impaired, blind or
33 visually impaired, multiply handicapped, or other health impaired. All
34 evaluations performed pursuant to this Part shall be appropriate to the
35 individual child's age and development.

36 **"§ 115C-146.2. Entitlement to services.**

37 Preschool handicapped children are entitled, at no cost to their parents or guardians,
38 to individualized programs specifically designed to meet their unique needs for special
39 education and related services.

40 **"§ 115C-146.3. Obligation to provide services.**

41 (a) The General Assembly finds:

- 42 (1) That preschool handicapped children will benefit from the special
43 education and related services required by this Part;

1 (2) That the General Assembly has evaluated the known needs of the State
2 and has endeavored to satisfy those needs in comparison to the social
3 and economic problems of the State;

4 (3) That the funds appropriated to serve these preschool handicapped
5 children are a reasonable amount to provide such children with special
6 education and related services; and

7 (4) That, therefore, (i) State funds appropriated to implement this Part are
8 the only State funds for public schools that may be used to provide
9 special education and related services to preschool handicapped
10 children; and (ii) preschool handicapped children will continue to be
11 served by all other State funds they are otherwise entitled to.

12 (b) The Department of Public Education shall cause local school administrative
13 units to make available special education and related services to all preschool
14 handicapped children whose parents or guardians request these services.

15 (c) State funds appropriated to implement the provisions of this Part shall be used
16 to supplement and not supplant existing federal, State and local funding for the public
17 schools.

18 (d) Related services provided under this Part shall be provided by qualified
19 services providers. The term 'qualified services provider' means a person who meets
20 State standards for licensure or State Board of Education standards for certification for a
21 specific profession or discipline.

22 To the extent that the State Board of Education standards include provisions for
23 certification that are less than the standard for certification or licensure for a specific
24 profession, the Department of Public Instruction may certify individuals on a temporary
25 or provisional basis, provided that the State Board of Education shall establish a
26 comprehensive plan and reasonable time-lines to ensure that only professionals who
27 meet the appropriate standard for licensure or certification may be employed in the
28 future.

29 **"§ 115C-146.4. Rules.**

30 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules implementing this Part, including
31 rules necessary in order to receive federal funding pursuant to Part B of the Education
32 of the Handicapped Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. These rules shall include a provision
33 that, where a local education agency finds that appropriate services are available from
34 other public agencies or private organizations, that local education agency shall, in
35 accordance with G.S. 115C-149, contract for those services rather than provide them
36 directly. These rules shall also include a provision that, where a local education agency
37 finds that a child is already receiving appropriate services, that local education agency
38 shall continue those services as long as appropriate."

39 Sec. 6. The Department of Human Resources shall ensure that the following
40 schedule is met with regards to the provision of early intervention services for eligible
41 infants and toddlers as defined in G.S. 122C-3(13a) and with regards to reporting and
42 evaluation of the early intervention system:

43 (1) By October 1, 1990, multidisciplinary evaluations and case
44 management services shall be available to all eligible infants and

1 toddlers and their families and individual family services plans shall be
2 developed for them;

3 (2) By October 1, 1990, the other types of early intervention services
4 referenced in G.S. 122C-3(13a) and any other such services the
5 Secretary of Human Resources, in cooperation with the other
6 appropriate agencies and upon the advice of the Interagency
7 Coordinating Council for Handicapped Children from Birth to Five
8 Years of Age, considers necessary shall be available to all eligible
9 infants and toddlers and their families;

10 (3) Beginning March 1, 1991, the Department of Human Resources, and
11 the Department of Public Instruction, with the assistance of other
12 appropriate agencies and with the advice of the Interagency
13 Coordinating Council for Handicapped Children from Birth to Five
14 Years of Age, established by G.S. 143B-179.5, shall submit a report to
15 the General Assembly identifying the numbers of eligible infants and
16 toddlers remaining unserved and the types of early intervention
17 services needed, all existing federal, State, local, and private resources
18 being used for these services and the State resources needed to provide
19 these services.

20 Sec. 7. Section 5 of this act shall become effective July 1, 1991. All other
21 sections of this act shall become effective July 1, 1990.