

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

S

2

SENATE BILL 12\*  
Second Edition Engrossed 2/25/93

Short Title: Strengthening Family Resources.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford, Conder; Perdue, Hunt, Daniel, Sands, Richardson, Jordan, Tally, Winner of Mecklenburg, Edwards, and Seymour.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

January 28, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN FAMILY RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. A new Part is added to Article 3 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes to read:

**"PART 4B.**

**"FAMILY RESOURCES GRANT PROGRAM.**

**"§ 143B-151. Purpose.**

It is the intent of the General Assembly to encourage and support broad-based collaboration among governmental and nongovernmental agencies and persons reflective of the racial and socioeconomic diversity in local communities in order to develop initiatives designed to (i) prepare children to learn effectively and to have a successful school experience, (ii) enhance the ability of families to become advocates for and supporters of education for the children in their families, and (iii) enhance the ability of families to function as nurturing and effective family units.

**"§ 143B-151.1 Family Resources Grant Program; creation; administration; family resource center grants; innovation grants.**

(a) There is created in the Department of Human Resources a Family Resources Grant Program. The program shall be administered by the Secretary of Human

1 Resources, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources, created  
2 in G.S. 143B-151.2.

3 (b) Beginning with the 1994-95 fiscal year, the program shall provide family  
4 resource center grants for individual public schools or consortia of public schools to  
5 establish family resource centers in or near the schools. A school or consortia of  
6 schools may apply for a grant if at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the students  
7 enrolled at the school or at the consortia of schools are eligible for free meals. The  
8 purpose of the family resource centers is to provide services to children from  
9 prekindergarten through the sixth grade and their families that are designed to enhance  
10 the children's ability to attain academic and social success.

11 (c) Beginning with the 1993-94 fiscal year, the program shall provide innovation  
12 grants to consortia of governmental and nongovernmental agencies and other persons.  
13 The composition of the consortia shall generally reflect the racial and socioeconomic  
14 diversity in their local communities. The purpose of these grants is to initiate or further  
15 develop innovative models for the effective, comprehensive, and collaborative delivery  
16 of services to children at risk of not attaining academic and social success and their  
17 families.

18 (d) Applications for these grants, whether for family resource centers under  
19 subsection (b) of this section or innovative models under subsection (c) of this section,  
20 shall be developed on the basis of currently available resources, and on the basis of  
21 additional resources that can be utilized to enhance the effectiveness of currently  
22 available resources.

23 **"§ 143B-151.2. Creation of the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources.**

24 (a) There is created the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources. The Task  
25 Force shall be located administratively within the Department of Human Resources but  
26 shall exercise its statutory powers and duties independently of the Department.

27 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following 23 members and shall be  
28 generally reflective of the racial and socioeconomic diversity of the State's population:

29 (1) Seven members to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall  
30 represent each of the following:

31 a. The Governor's Office;

32 b. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human  
33 Resources;

34 c. The Health Division, Department of Environment, Health and  
35 Natural Resources;

36 d. The Employment Security Commission;

37 e. A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
38 eligible to receive services under this Part;

39 f. The juvenile justice system;

40 g. The Department of Community Colleges;

41 (2) Seven members to be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the  
42 recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of  
43 whom shall represent each of the following:

44 a. A university department of sociology or social work;

- 1                   b.     A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
2                   eligible to receive services under this Part;  
3                   c.     Local school administrators;  
4                   d.     Local public health departments;  
5                   e.     Local departments of social services;  
6                   f.     The business community;  
7                   g.     A nongovernmental agency involved in the delivery of services  
8                   to children and their families;  
9           (3)     Seven members to be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the  
10           recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one  
11           of whom shall represent each of the following:  
12           a.     A university school of education;  
13           b.     A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
14           eligible to receive services under this Part;  
15           c.     Public school teachers;  
16           d.     Local boards of education;  
17           e.     Local community mental health - developmental disabilities  
18           programs;  
19           f.     The business community;  
20           g.     A nongovernmental agency involved in the delivery of services  
21           to children and their families;  
22           (4)     The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's  
23           designee; and  
24           (5)     The Secretary of Human Resources or the Secretary's designee.  
25           (c)     Initial appointments shall be made no later than September 1, 1993.  
26           Appointments by the General Assembly shall be made in accordance with G.S. 120-  
27           121, and vacancies in those appointments shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-  
28           122. The Governor shall fill any vacancies in his appointments. A member shall serve  
29           at the pleasure of the member's appointing authority.  
30           (d)     The Governor shall appoint the chair and vice-chair from the membership of  
31           the Task Force; the chair or the vice-chair shall be the Superintendent of Public  
32           Instruction or the Superintendent's designee. The chair shall call the first meeting of the  
33           Task Force.  
34           (e)     Task Force members shall receive per diem, travel and subsistence  
35           allowances in accordance with G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6, as appropriate.  
36           (f)     A majority of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of  
37           business.  
38           (g)     All clerical and other services required by the Task Force shall be supplied by  
39           the Secretary of Human Resources.  
40           "**§ 143B-151.3. Powers and duties of the Task Force; powers and duties of agencies**  
41           **represented on Task Force.**  
42           (a)     For purposes of developing and supporting initiatives under this Part, the  
43           Interagency Task Force on Family Resources shall:

- 1           (1) Advise the Secretary of Human Resources on the development of a  
2 family resource center grant application package and an innovation  
3 grant application package.
- 4           (2) Develop guidelines for the competitive awarding of grants and advise  
5 the Secretary of Human Resources on scoring procedures for grant  
6 applications. The guidelines for the awarding of family resource  
7 center grants under G.S. 143B-151.1(b) shall be based primarily on the  
8 need of a school, consortia of schools, or local community, along with  
9 the likelihood of success and the achievement of positive outcomes.  
10 Awarding of innovation grants shall not necessarily be subject to the  
11 requirements contained in G.S. 143B-151.1(b) with regard to  
12 eligibility for free lunch; however, all innovation grants shall be  
13 targeted to meet the needs of children and families projected to be at  
14 risk. The guidelines for the awarding of innovation grants under G.S.  
15 143B-151.1(c) may be based on the need of a local community, but  
16 primarily shall be based on the likelihood of the proposed model's  
17 success, the creative design of the proposed model, and the potential  
18 for subsequent replication of the model in other communities.
- 19           (3) Develop a process for, and the content of, training and education for  
20 personnel who will be assisting in the preparation of grants.
- 21           (4) Review scored grant applications and make recommendations on grant  
22 recipients to the Secretary of Human Resources.
- 23           (5) Develop recommendations with regard to statutes, policies, and rules  
24 so as to improve the effectiveness and timeliness of service delivery  
25 through individual agencies and through collaboration among  
26 agencies.
- 27           (6) Collect, analyze, evaluate, and disseminate information on initiatives  
28 within and outside North Carolina that are successful or promising in  
29 addressing issues that constitute the focus of this Part.
- 30           (7) Report at least annually to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of  
31 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairs of  
32 the appropriations committees of the Senate and the House of  
33 Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research  
34 Commission's Committee on Students at Risk or any successor  
35 legislative study committees.
- 36           (b) For purposes of developing and supporting family resource centers under this  
37 Part, the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources shall:
  - 38           (1) Formulate before January 1, 1994, a five-year plan for implementing a  
39 network of family resource centers across the State. The plan shall  
40 promote identification and coordination of existing resources. The  
41 plan shall include strategies for implementing the activities for which  
42 grant applicants are required to provide a work plan in accordance with  
43 G.S. 143B-151.4(1)k.

- 1           (2) Develop a process for, and the content of, training and education for  
2 personnel who will be operating the family resource centers, or  
3 assisting grant recipients in operating the centers.
- 4           (3) Develop model procedures that family resource centers can follow for  
5 sharing confidential information with other service providers.
- 6           (4) Evaluate the effectiveness of the family resource centers' activities.
- 7           (5) Compile and analyze data and other information needed to implement  
8 the family resource grant program and to operate the centers, and  
9 identify additional data and information that are needed.
- 10          (6) Work with the Legislative Research Commission's Committee on  
11 Students at Risk or any successor legislative study committees in  
12 developing a timetable and plan for fully implementing a statewide  
13 plan predicated on the philosophy of the family resource centers.
- 14          (7) Formulate a plan for serving the needs of children in grades seven and  
15 above and their families, after the family resource center grant  
16 program is substantially developed.
- 17          (8) Formulate a plan, with a timetable for beginning implementation no  
18 later than January 1, 2000, for expanding family resource centers to all  
19 schools within the State where justifiable need is evident, regardless of  
20 whether twenty-five percent (25%) of the students at that school are  
21 eligible for free meals.

22          (c) For the purpose of developing innovative initiatives for the effective,  
23 comprehensive, and collaborative delivery of services to children and their families,  
24 agencies represented on the Task Force that have corresponding agencies at the county  
25 level shall:

- 26           (1) Determine the counties in which there are personnel who are  
27 committed to the philosophy underlying G.S. 143B-151.
- 28           (2) Engage county-level personnel in developing the most effective  
29 comprehensive, collaborative models possible for the delivery of  
30 services to children and their families that will better enable children to  
31 achieve academic and social success.
- 32           (3) Develop a plan to establish goals and anticipated outcomes for  
33 initiatives, and a system to measure their success.
- 34           (4) Establish professional development opportunities for personnel within  
35 the agencies that are based on new information that results from the  
36 initiatives.

37          (d) In carrying out its responsibilities under this section, the Task Force may  
38 enter into any consultative and contractual arrangements as are necessary.

39 **"§ 143B-151.4. Powers and duties of the Secretary of Human Resources.**

40 The Secretary shall:

- 41           (1) Develop, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
42 Resources, a family resource center grant application package and  
43 provide it to each local school administrative unit in which there are  
44 qualifying schools. The package shall include grant proposal

1 instructions and grant-scoring procedures. Grant applications may be  
2 submitted by the local school administrative unit or by a consortia of  
3 agencies. The following information shall be provided as a part of  
4 each grant application:

5 a. A statement of the school's or consortium's need for a family  
6 resource center.

7 b. Proposed goals and anticipated outcomes for a center.

8 c. A list of all services that will be provided at the center and a  
9 description of how they will be provided.

10 d. A plan for serving children and their families with the most  
11 urgent needs first.

12 e. Documentation of the approval of each school's building-level  
13 committee convened under G.S. 115C-238.3(b1), and a copy of  
14 each school's building-level plan, which shall reflect the need  
15 for the center and the proposed goals and anticipated outcomes  
16 for the center.

17 f. Evidence of agreement and support from all other service  
18 providers.

19 g. A description of the development, composition, and role of a  
20 local advisory council. This council shall generally reflect the  
21 racial and socioeconomic diversity of the community's  
22 population, and shall generally reflect, but shall not be limited  
23 to, the composition of the Interagency Task Force.

24 h. Strategies to disseminate information.

25 i. A training plan.

26 j. A plan to minimize stigma.

27 k. A work plan for identifying and coordinating existing resources  
28 so as to implement to the extent feasible (i) full-time preschool  
29 child care for children two and three years old, (ii) after-school  
30 child care when school is in session and full-time when it is not  
31 for children four through twelve years old, (iii) an integrated  
32 approach to home visits, group meetings, and the monitoring of  
33 child development for new and expectant parents, (iv) training  
34 in developmentally appropriate parenting skills for parents, (v)  
35 support and training for child day care providers, (vi) health  
36 services, referral to health services, or both, and (vii) other  
37 services designed to satisfy unique community needs.

38 l. Job descriptions for staff.

39 m. Plans to contract for the services of consultants or other  
40 professionals to provide services or operate the center.

41 n. A description of the center's location and its accessibility to the  
42 school and to the children and families to be served.

43 o. The hours of operation of the center.

- 1 p. A proposed budget that includes the use of grant funds and  
2 funds from other sources.
- 3 q. A program evaluation plan.
- 4 r. Letters of endorsement and commitment to the center from  
5 community agencies and organizations.
- 6 (2) Develop, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
7 Resources, an innovation grant application package and provide it to  
8 each county. The package shall include grant proposal instructions,  
9 grant-scoring procedures, and a grant application form that requires the  
10 following information:
- 11 a. A statement of the need for the innovation grant.
- 12 b. A list of all services that will be provided and a description of  
13 how and where they will be provided.
- 14 c. Proposed goals and outcomes for the innovative system.
- 15 d. Evidence of agreement and support from all service providers.
- 16 e. Documentation of broad-based collaboration among  
17 governmental agencies, nongovernmental agencies, and other  
18 persons.
- 19 f. A plan for serving children and their families with the most  
20 urgent needs first.
- 21 g. A description of the development, composition, and role of a  
22 local advisory council. This council shall generally reflect the  
23 racial and socioeconomic diversity of the community's  
24 population, and shall generally reflect, but shall not be limited  
25 to, the composition of the Interagency Task Force.
- 26 h. Strategies to disseminate information as to the availability of  
27 grants.
- 28 i. A proposed budget that includes the use of grant funds and  
29 funds from other sources.
- 30 j. A program evaluation plan.
- 31 k. A plan to obtain additional funds and resources from non-  
32 governmental sources.
- 33 l. Any additional information the Secretary considers necessary.
- 34 (3) Designate and train a person in each county to assist in the preparation  
35 of grant applications.
- 36 (4) Adopt, upon the advice of the Task Force, scoring procedures for the  
37 grant applications.
- 38 (5) Select and train reviewers to score the grant applications.
- 39 (6) Submit the scored grant applications to the Task Force for its  
40 recommendations.
- 41 (7) Select grant recipients, after consideration of the recommendations of  
42 the Task Force.
- 43 (8) Provide technical assistance to the family resource centers.
- 44 (9) Evaluate the activities of the family resource centers.

1           (10) Provide assistance to grant recipients to enable them to pursue  
2           additional sources of funding and other resources.

3 **"§ 143B-151.5. Plans for effective utilization of fiscal resources.**

4           (a) Each governmental agency that is represented on the Interagency Task Force  
5 on Family Resources shall develop a plan for effective utilization of all fiscal resources,  
6 including federal funds, and other resources under the agency's control in a manner that  
7 best supports the goals of this Part.

8           (b) Each governmental agency that is represented on the Task Force is  
9 encouraged to establish any commissions the agency considers necessary to develop the  
10 plans required under subsection (a) of this section.

11           (c) Each governmental agency that is represented on the Task Force shall present  
12 its plan and report on the progress in developing and implementing its plan at least  
13 biannually to the Task Force."

14           Sec. 2. G.S. 115C-21(a) reads as rewritten:

15           "(a) Administrative Duties. – It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public  
16 Instruction:

17           (1) To organize and establish a Department of Public Instruction which  
18 shall include such divisions and departments as are necessary for  
19 supervision and administration of the public school system, to  
20 administer the funds for the operation of the Department of Public  
21 Instruction, and to enter into contracts for the operations of the  
22 Department of Public Instruction.

23           (2) To keep the public informed as to the problems and needs of the public  
24 schools by constant contact with all school administrators and  
25 teachers, by his personal appearance at public gatherings, and by  
26 information furnished to the press of the State.

27           (3) To report biennially to the Governor 30 days prior to each regular  
28 session of the General Assembly, such report to include information  
29 and statistics of the public schools, with recommendations for their  
30 improvement and for such changes in the school law as shall occur to  
31 him.

32           (4) To have printed and distributed such educational bulletins as he shall  
33 deem necessary for the professional improvement of teachers and for  
34 the cultivation of public sentiment for public education, and to have  
35 printed all forms necessary and proper for the administration of the  
36 Department of Public Instruction.

37           (5) To have under his direction, in his capacity as the constitutional head  
38 of the public school system, all those matters relating to the  
39 supervision and administration of the public school system.

40           (5a) To institute and maintain a plan to ensure that schools are ready to  
41 receive children and their families in an environment that is inviting  
42 and supportive and that encourages the families' participation.

43           (6) To create a special fund within the Department of Public Instruction to  
44 manage funds received as grants from nongovernmental sources in



1 support of public education. The Superintendent may accept grants  
2 and gifts from corporations and other sources made in support of  
3 public education and may hold and disburse such funds, in accordance  
4 with the purposes, conditions, and limitations associated with such  
5 grants and gifts. Any special fund created pursuant to this subdivision  
6 shall be subject to audit by the State Auditor.

- 7 (7) To have solely under his direction and control all matters relating to  
8 provision of staff services and support to the State Board of Education,  
9 including implementation of federal programs on behalf of the State  
10 Board of Education, except as otherwise provided in the Current  
11 Operations Appropriations Act."

12 Sec. 3. The Frank Porter Graham Center at the University of North Carolina  
13 at Chapel Hill shall conduct a short-term program evaluation and shall develop a system  
14 to measure and analyze the long-term goals and outcomes of the Family Resources  
15 Grant Program established in Section 1 of this act, and shall file a written report no later  
16 than February 15, 1995, with the chair of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
17 Resources, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
18 House of Representatives, the chairs of the appropriations committees of the Senate and  
19 the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research Commission's  
20 Committee on Students at Risk or any successor legislative study committees.

21 Sec. 4. The State Board of Education shall analyze the free lunch data that it  
22 currently gathers to determine its accuracy and to determine whether it reflects the  
23 socioeconomic status of the community in which a school is located. If the Board  
24 determines that the data is inaccurate, the Board shall develop and implement a method  
25 to gather this information in a more accurate manner. The Board shall file a written  
26 report no later than January 15, 1994, with the chair of the Interagency Task Force on  
27 Family Resources, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker  
28 of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research  
29 Commission's Committee on Students at Risk or any successor legislative study  
30 committees.

31 Sec. 5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
32 Human Resources the sum of nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000) for the  
33 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of eight million four hundred fifty thousand dollars  
34 (\$8,450,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to implement the provisions of this act.

35 Of these funds:

- 36 (1) The sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) shall be used  
37 each year of the biennium by the Department of Human Resources,  
38 Office of the Secretary, for training, materials, and consultation  
39 services.
- 40 (2) The sum of seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000)  
41 shall be used in the 1994-95 fiscal year for grants of up to seventy-five  
42 thousand dollars (\$75,000) per individual public school or consortia of  
43 public schools to begin implementation of the family resource center  
44 grants established in G.S. 143B-151.1 in order to establish family

1 resource centers in at least 50 counties. These grants shall be based on  
2 the guidelines established under G.S. 143B-151.3(a)(2).

3 (3) The sum of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) shall be  
4 used each year of the biennium for grants of up to thirty thousand  
5 dollars (\$30,000) per consortia to begin implementation of the  
6 innovation grants established in G.S. 143B-151.1(c). These grants  
7 shall be based on the guidelines established under G.S. 143B-  
8 151.3(a)(2).

9 Sec. 6. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.