

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 156

SHORT TITLE: Funds for Medical Evaluations

SPONSOR(S): Representative Ruth Easterling

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1997-98</u>	<u>FY 1998-99</u>	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>
REVENUES (State)					
EXPENDITURES	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$425,000
POSITIONS:	None				
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:	Department of Human Resources				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	July 1, 1997				

BILL SUMMARY: This bill appropriates \$425,000 in state funds to reimburse certain providers with special training, for medical evaluations performed in cases of suspected child abuse or neglect.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Human Resources/Division of Social Services contracts with the Child Medical Evaluation Program (CMEP) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for evaluations of children referred by local departments of social services in suspected cases of abuse and neglect. These evaluations are financed with a combination of federal (Medicaid and Social Services Block Grant), state and local funds and are intended to: 1) assist in the determination of maltreatment, 2) assess medical and mental health problems resulting from maltreatment and recommend appropriate treatment; and 3) diagnose and document findings appropriate for use in civil or criminal prosecution.

During the 1995 and 1996 legislative sessions, the General Assembly reduced the funding to CMEP. The 1995 reduction, \$349,106, was the result of projected over-budgeting. The 1996

reduction of \$75,260, was the result of anticipated reimbursement of federal funds for allowable costs. Additionally, funds were reduced by \$50,063 as a result of federal reductions in the Social Services Block Grant. This bill would restore the previously mentioned reductions in state appropriations to the Child Medical Evaluation Fund.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: N/A

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

PREPARED BY: Karen Hammonds-Blanks

APPROVED BY: Tom L. Covington **TomC**

DATE: April 22, 1997



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices

Attachment A.

Fiscal Note: House Bill 363

Part I. Termination of “Disregard” & “Excess” Child Support Payments

Summary of Estimated Cost Savings:

1. Termination as of March 31, 1997	\$810,596
2. Termination as of April 30, 1997	\$810,597
3. Termination as of May 31, 1997	\$840,704

Fiscal Research Division
March 26, 1997