

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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**HOUSE BILL 361
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/4/23**

Short Title: Require Report/Protection & Advocacy Agency.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 15, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY AGENCY FOR NORTH
CAROLINA TO REPORT ITS ACTIONS REGARDING ITS IMPACT ON PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES.

Whereas, the action of North Carolina's Protection and Advocacy Agency has a direct impact on the budget of the State of North Carolina; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Protection and Advocacy Agency's actions have an impact on citizens with disabilities; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The designated Protection and Advocacy Agency (Agency) for this State shall report to the General Assembly as provided in this section. Upon review, the General Assembly is encouraged to examine the activities of the Agency to determine the impact on current and future State budgets. Nothing in this section shall be construed as impacting the Agency's ability to perform work within its governing laws. The reports shall be submitted as follows:

- (1) A report submitted twice a year of actions the Agency has taken in its efforts to advocate for persons with disabilities. The Agency shall submit its reports to the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on Health and Human Services during session and to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services during the interim.
- (2) A report submitted by December 1, 2023, to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the Agency's measured successes in advocating for persons with disabilities, which shall contain specific examples of how the Agency reduced barriers to employment, enabled independent living, and increased postsecondary educational opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- (3) A report submitted by December 1, 2023, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the Agency's outcomes in advocating for students with disabilities in elementary and secondary education. The report shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. Any advocacy targets related to students with disabilities in the prior 10 years and the outcomes of those advocacy targets.



- 1 b. Any measures identified by the Agency for determination of successes
- 2 in advocating for persons with disabilities in the prior 10 years, and
- 3 the Agency's performance based on those measures.
- 4 c. The number of students with disabilities the Agency has advocated for,
- 5 disaggregated by type of disability as defined in G.S. 115C-106.3(2),
- 6 in the prior 10 years.
- 7 d. The Agency's success in advocating for students with disabilities,
- 8 disaggregated by type of disability as defined in G.S. 115C-106.3(2),
- 9 as it relates to high school graduation, student grade level promotion,
- 10 and completion of end-of-grade and end-of-course tests on grade level
- 11 for the prior 10 years.

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