

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 292

Short Title: Child Center Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Easterling, Wright; Adams, Barnes, Beall, Earle, Ives, Luebke, McLaughlin, Rogers, Sutton, and Yongue.

Referred to: Appropriations.

February 23, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT RECOMMENDED BY THE CHILD FATALITY TASK FORCE TO
APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR TEN CHILD MALTREATMENT RESOURCE
CENTERS.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources, the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year and the sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the 1996-97 fiscal year for ten Child Maltreatment Resource Centers.

Of these funds, two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the 1995-96 fiscal year are nonrecurring, start-up funds that will provide grants of up to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) per center for educational materials, video-taping equipment, photography equipment, medical instruments, and other one-time supplies.

The Division of Social Services shall allocate the six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) of operating funds each fiscal year to each center based on a productivity formula. No center shall receive more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in any one fiscal year. The Director of the Division of Social Services, in cooperation with the Director of the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance

1 Abuse Services, the State Health Director, the Attorney General, the President of the
2 North Carolina Pediatric Society, and the President of the North Carolina Association of
3 County Directors of Social Services, shall develop the proposal applications, the grants
4 review process, and the productivity formula.

5 The Child Maltreatment Resource Centers established and funded by this
6 section shall:

- 7 (1) Offer support, education, and training for medical and mental health
8 providers, social workers, lawyers, law enforcement officers, and other
9 involved professionals in their catchment area;
- 10 (2) Develop and maintain uniform and consistent standards of evaluation
11 for physical, sexual, and emotional abuse;
- 12 (3) Create a system that is coherent, effective, and fair to the child and
13 family in resolving issues of child maltreatment;
- 14 (4) Decrease the amount of time each child must wait for an appointment
15 and provide maltreatment evaluations near to the child's home; and
- 16 (5) Eliminate duplicative or unnecessary interviews to minimize further
17 trauma to the child.

18 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1995.