

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 291

Short Title: Continue Soc. Service Regnl Supervsn Work Grp. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Stevens and Lewis (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 7, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF THE WORK OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES REGIONAL SUPERVISION AND COLLABORATION WORKING GROUP.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Section 1.2 of S.L. 2017-41 reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 1.2.(a) Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group. – The School of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (SOG) shall ~~convene a~~ continue the work of the Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group (Working Group) to make recommendations to the Department regarding the regional supervision and collaboration plan. The Working Group shall consist of the currently constituted members as of December 1, 2018.

"SECTION 1.2.(b) Composition. – The Working Group shall consist of the following members:

(1) Three members ~~of the Senate~~ appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated as a cochair.

(2) Three members ~~of the House of Representatives~~ appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as a cochair.

...

"SECTION 1.2.(d) Duties. – The Working Group shall continue to develop recommendations for the regional supervision and collaboration plan required by Section 1.1 of this act. The Working Group shall ~~divide its work into two stages, the first~~ continue to address (i) regional supervision and ~~the second to~~ (ii) address interagency collaboration and regionalization.

(1) ~~Stage One. Regional Supervision.~~ – The Working Group shall ~~convene its first meeting no later than October 6, 2017. During the first stage, the Working Group shall develop~~ October 4, 2019, and continue developing recommendations regarding:

a. The size, number, and location of the regions. Recommendations shall take into consideration (i) the need for regions to maintain direct, local connections with the jurisdictions they serve; (ii) alignment with other regional organizations that intersect with the work of social services, as appropriate; and (iii) awareness of the cultural differences and similarities between regions.



- 1 b. The allocation of responsibility between the central, regional, and local
2 officials in supervising and administering the social services programs
3 and services.
4 c. Methods for holding the regional offices accountable for performance
5 and responsiveness.
6 d. Requirements for the regional offices to share information about local
7 departmental performance with the relevant board or boards of county
8 commissioners, county or regional board of social services, or
9 consolidated human services board.
10 e. Options for authorizing the board of county commissioners to
11 intervene in urgent situations to assume direct control of the
12 department of social services at the local level prior to the State
13 assuming control of service delivery pursuant to G.S. 108A-74.
14 f. Any other issues related to regional supervision identified by the
15 cochairs.

16 (2) ~~Stage Two. Interagency Collaboration and Regionalization. – During the~~
17 ~~second stage, the~~ The Working Group shall:

- 18 a. Develop recommendations regarding legislative and regulatory
19 changes necessary to improve collaboration between counties in the
20 administration of social services programs and services.
21 Recommendations shall address, at a minimum, information sharing,
22 conflicts of interest, and intercounty movement of people enrolled in
23 programs or receiving social services.
24 b. Develop a vision for transitioning the State from a
25 county-administered system to a regionally administered system. The
26 vision shall identify general benefits and challenges associated with
27 making such a transition.

28 "**SECTION 1.2.(e) Reports.** –

- 29 (1) ~~Stage One.~~—The Working Group shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative
30 Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services (Committee) and the
31 Department ~~at the conclusion of Stage One, which shall be on its continued~~
32 ~~work no later than April 15, 2018.~~ April 15, 2020. After receiving the ~~Stage~~
33 ~~One~~ ~~this~~ report, the Committee may terminate the Working Group if it
34 concludes that the Working Group is not making sufficient progress.
35 (2) ~~Stage Two.~~—The Working Group shall submit a final report of its
36 recommendations to the Committee and the Department ~~at the conclusion of~~
37 ~~Stage Two, which shall be no later than February 1, 2019.~~ February 1, 2021,
38 and shall terminate upon the final report.

39 "

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