

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 489\*

Children and Human Resources Committee Substitute Adopted 6/7/93

Short Title: Child Eval. Center Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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March 16, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHILD FATALITY  
2 TASK FORCE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT  
3 EVALUATION AND EDUCATION CENTERS.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. (a) There is created in the Division of Social Services, Department  
7 of Human Resources, a grant program to establish a maximum of 12 Regional Child  
8 Maltreatment Evaluation and Education Centers to provide:

- 9 (1) Expert evaluations of children suspected of being the victims of child  
10 abuse or neglect;  
11 (2) Systematic continuing education to Child Medical Examiners,  
12 Community Child Protection Team members, health care providers,  
13 social workers, guardians **ad litem**, and other professionals involved in  
14 child abuse prevention, evaluation, and treatment;  
15 (3) Continuing education to individuals in training, such as medical  
16 students, to increase the pool of professionals available to provide  
17 evaluations; and  
18 (4) Special equipment and special services to Child Medical Examiners  
19 and other health care professionals.

20 The Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee, shall  
21 administer the program.

1 (b) The Secretary of Human Resources, or the Secretary's designee, upon the  
2 advice of a review panel, which should include representatives of law enforcement  
3 officers, district attorneys, medical practitioners, and social workers, shall:

4 (1) Develop a grant application package and provide it to the four medical  
5 schools in the State, teaching hospitals in the State that have major  
6 roles in the residency training of physicians in pediatrics and family  
7 medicine, and nonprofit organizations in underserved areas of the State  
8 that have no residencies but that agree to become involved in  
9 continuing education of health, social services, and law enforcement  
10 personnel. The package shall include grant proposal instructions and  
11 grant-scoring procedures. Each grant application shall include:

- 12 a. Documentation that the existing program or new location has  
13 seen at least 100 maltreatment victims for medical evaluations  
14 in the past year or has the capacity for such a case load within a  
15 year.
- 16 b. An agreement to provide:
- 17 1. Primary multidisciplinary evaluations for children  
18 suspected of being victims of child abuse or neglect;
- 19 2. Second opinions, as requested, to other physicians who  
20 conduct maltreatment evaluations but are not affiliated  
21 with a center and to county departments of social  
22 services; and
- 23 3. Sexual abuse examinations.
- 24 c. Evidence of appropriate laboratory support, either directly or  
25 through arrangements with another center or laboratory.
- 26 d. A description of the center's anticipated educational efforts,  
27 which shall include establishing or enhancing training in the  
28 medical aspects of child abuse for medical students, residents,  
29 practicing physicians, and other professionals in the  
30 community.
- 31 e. A description of the center's location and its accessibility to the  
32 children and families to be served.
- 33 f. A proposed budget that includes the use of grant funds and  
34 funds from other sources.
- 35 g. A program evaluation plan.
- 36 h. Any other information the Secretary or the Secretary's designee  
37 considers appropriate.

38 (2) Adopt scoring procedures for the grant applications.

39 (3) Select grant recipients.

40 (4) Evaluate the activities of the centers.

41 (c) Grant funds may be used to:

42 (1) Support a half-time social worker or other professional trained in  
43 interviewing young children about child abuse;

44 (2) Provide partial support for a secretary or coordinator;

- 1 (3) Support the one-time purchase of a colposcope and videotaping  
2 equipment; and
- 3 (4) Support up to ten percent (10%) of a physician's or physician  
4 extender's time for educational activities.
- 5 (d) Each center that is eligible for, and receives, a grant under this act may  
6 receive supplemental funding if the following additional criteria are met:
- 7 (1) The center conducted a minimum of 300 multidisciplinary evaluations  
8 for children suspected of being victims of child abuse or neglect in the  
9 past year, and the center agrees to conduct a minimum of 300 of these  
10 evaluations each year.
- 11 (2) The center is actively involved in the education of medical students,  
12 residents, and practicing physicians.
- 13 (3) At least one physician with recognized expertise involved in the  
14 provision of services to maltreated children is employed by or  
15 affiliated with the center.
- 16 (4) The center is authorized to provide continuing medical education.
- 17 (5) The center agrees to provide second opinions, as requested, to Child  
18 Medical Examiners.
- 19 (6) The center agrees to sponsor continuing education courses for  
20 professionals in its regions, and to provide training to individual Child  
21 Medical Examiners, as requested.
- 22 (7) The center agrees to participate in and support peer review  
23 conferences, such as the monthly statewide video conference currently  
24 operated by the Child Medical Evaluation Program.
- 25 (8) The center's budget includes:
- 26 a. A maximum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for  
27 equipment during the first year, and a maximum of five  
28 thousand dollars (\$5,000) for equipment during the second year;
- 29 b. A maximum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year  
30 to employ a full-time social worker or other specially trained  
31 professional to assist in the evaluations with child interviews  
32 and case coordination;
- 33 c. A maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per year  
34 to support a maximum of a three-tenths full-time equivalent  
35 physician's or physician extender's time to be devoted to  
36 education and outreach activities;
- 37 d. A maximum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year for  
38 educational materials and communication costs; and
- 39 e. A maximum of seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) per year for  
40 travel for education of the professionals staffing the center or  
41 for provision of education to others.

42 Sec. 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Social  
43 Services, Department of Human Resources, the sum of eight hundred forty thousand

1 dollars (\$840,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of six hundred sixty thousand  
2 dollars (\$660,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to implement this act. Of these funds:

3           (1) The sum of eight hundred forty thousand dollars (\$840,000) for the  
4           1993-94 fiscal year shall be used for six grants of up to eighty  
5           thousand dollars (\$80,000) and for six grants of up to sixty thousand  
6           dollars (\$60,000).

7           (2) The sum of six hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$660,000) for the  
8           1994-95 fiscal year shall be used for six grants of up to sixty-five  
9           thousand dollars (\$65,000) and for six grants of up to forty-five  
10          thousand dollars (\$45,000).

11          Sec. 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.