

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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SENATE BILL 616*

Short Title: Model Program/Children w/Disabilities. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Atwater.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

March 17, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A PILOT REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION
2 FUND TO SUPPORT MULTIDISCIPLINARY ASSESSMENT SERVICES FOR
3 CHILDREN WITH SEVERE COMMUNICATION AND MOBILITY DISABILITIES
4 WHO HAVE GOOD ACADEMIC POTENTIAL.
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6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
8 Public Instruction, Division of Exceptional Children, the sum of fifty thousand dollars
9 (\$50,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to establish a pilot regional
10 special education fund to support multidisciplinary assessment services for children with severe
11 communication and mobility disabilities who have good academic potential.

12 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
13 Public Instruction, Division of Exceptional Children, the sum of fifty thousand dollars
14 (\$50,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to support the University of
15 North Carolina Center for Literacy and Disability Studies for the implementation of a
16 multidisciplinary assessment program for children with severe communication and mobility
17 disabilities.

18 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
19 Public Instruction, Division of Exceptional Children, the sum of fifty thousand dollars
20 (\$50,000) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. These funds shall be used to provide planning grants
21 of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per grant to regions of the State to replicate the New
22 Voices Program, a regional service model now operating in the Research Triangle region of the
23 State.

24 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Public Instruction will work cooperatively with
25 the New Voices Program to implement the activities for which funds are appropriated in this
26 act.

27 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

