

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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SENATE BILL 12\*  
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Short Title: Strengthening Family Resources.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford, Conder; Perdue, Hunt, Daniel, Sands, Richardson, Jordan, Tally, Winner of Mecklenburg, Edwards, and Seymour.

Referred to: Appropriations.

January 28, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN FAMILY RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. A new Part is added to Article 3 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes to read:

**"PART 4B.**

**"FAMILY RESOURCES GRANT PROGRAM.**

**"§ 143B-151. Purpose.**

It is the intent of the General Assembly to encourage and support broad-based collaboration among governmental and nongovernmental agencies and persons reflective of the racial and socioeconomic diversity in local communities in order to develop initiatives designed to (i) prepare children to learn effectively and to have a successful school experience, (ii) enhance the ability of families to become advocates for and supporters of education for the children in their families, and (iii) enhance the ability of families to function as nurturing and effective family units.

**"§ 143B-151.1 Family Resources Grant Program; creation; administration; family resource center grants; innovation grants.**

(a) There is created in the Department of Human Resources a Family Resources Grant Program. The program shall be administered by the Secretary of Human

1 Resources, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources, created  
2 in G.S. 143B-151.2.

3 (b) Beginning with the 1994-95 fiscal year, the program shall provide family  
4 resource center grants for individual public schools, consortia of public schools, or  
5 consortia of agencies in which at least one public school is included, to establish family  
6 resource centers in or near the schools. A school or consortia of schools may apply for  
7 a grant if at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the students enrolled at the school or at  
8 the consortia of schools are eligible for free meals. The purpose of the family resource  
9 centers is to provide services to children from prekindergarten through the sixth grade  
10 and their families that are designed to enhance the children's ability to attain academic  
11 and social success.

12 (c) Beginning with the 1993-94 fiscal year, the program shall provide innovation  
13 grants to consortia of governmental and nongovernmental agencies and other persons.  
14 The composition of the consortia shall generally reflect the racial and socioeconomic  
15 diversity in their local communities. The purpose of these grants is to initiate or further  
16 develop innovative models for the effective, comprehensive, and collaborative delivery  
17 of services to children at risk of not attaining academic and social success and their  
18 families.

19 (d) Applications for these grants, whether for family resource centers under  
20 subsection (b) of this section or innovative models under subsection (c) of this section,  
21 shall be developed on the basis of currently available resources, and on the basis of  
22 additional resources that can be utilized to enhance the effectiveness of currently  
23 available resources.

24 (e) Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, consortia that make  
25 proper application under this Part that are established in areas served by an early  
26 childhood demonstration project established during the 1993-94 fiscal year under G.S.  
27 143B-168.12, if enacted, and administered under Part 10B of Article 3 of Chapter 143B  
28 of the General Statutes, if enacted, shall receive family resource center grants unless the  
29 Secretary of Human Resources, upon consideration of the recommendation of the  
30 Interagency Task Force on Family Resources rejects the application because either:

31 (1) The criteria set out in G.S. 143B-151.1(b) are not met; or

32 (2) The quality of the proposal or application does not adequately promote  
33 the purposes embodied in this Part.

34 **"§ 143B-151.2. Creation of the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources.**

35 (a) There is created the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources. The Task  
36 Force shall be located administratively within the Department of Human Resources but  
37 shall exercise its statutory powers and duties independently of the Department.

38 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following 24 members and shall be  
39 generally reflective of the racial and socioeconomic diversity of the State's population:

40 (1) Eight members to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall  
41 represent each of the following:

42 a. The Governor's Office;

43 b. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human  
44 Resources;

- 1                   c.     The Health Division, Department of Environment, Health and  
2                   Natural Resources;  
3                   d.     The Employment Security Commission;  
4                   e.     A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
5                   eligible to receive services under this Part;  
6                   f.     The juvenile justice system;  
7                   g.     The Department of Community Colleges;  
8                   h.     A school social worker;  
9           (2)     Seven members to be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the  
10           recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of  
11           whom shall represent each of the following:  
12           a.     A university school of social work;  
13           b.     A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
14           eligible to receive services under this Part;  
15           c.     Local school administrators;  
16           d.     Local public health departments;  
17           e.     Local departments of social services;  
18           f.     The business community;  
19           g.     A nongovernmental agency involved in the delivery of services  
20           to children and their families;  
21           (3)     Seven members to be appointed by the General Assembly, upon the  
22           recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one  
23           of whom shall represent each of the following:  
24           a.     A university school of education;  
25           b.     A parent who reflects the population of children and families  
26           eligible to receive services under this Part;  
27           c.     Public school teachers;  
28           d.     Local boards of education;  
29           e.     Local community mental health - developmental disabilities  
30           programs;  
31           f.     The business community;  
32           g.     A nongovernmental agency involved in the delivery of services  
33           to children and their families;  
34           (4)     The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's  
35           designee; and  
36           (5)     The Secretary of Human Resources or the Secretary's designee.  
37           (c)     Initial appointments shall be made no later than September 1, 1993.  
38           Appointments by the General Assembly shall be made in accordance with G.S. 120-  
39           121, and vacancies in those appointments shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-  
40           122. The Governor shall fill any vacancies in his appointments. A member shall serve  
41           at the pleasure of the member's appointing authority.  
42           (d)     The Governor shall appoint the chair and vice-chair from the membership of  
43           the Task Force; the chair or the vice-chair shall be the Superintendent of Public

1 Instruction or the Superintendent's designee. The chair shall call the first meeting of the  
2 Task Force.

3 (e) Task Force members shall receive per diem, travel and subsistence  
4 allowances in accordance with G.S. 138-5 and G.S. 138-6, as appropriate.

5 (f) A majority of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of  
6 business.

7 (g) All clerical and other services required by the Task Force shall be supplied by  
8 the Secretary of Human Resources.

9 **§ 143B-151.3. Powers and duties of the Task Force; powers and duties of agencies**  
10 **represented on Task Force.**

11 (a) For purposes of developing and supporting initiatives under this Part, the  
12 Interagency Task Force on Family Resources shall:

13 (1) Advise the Secretary of Human Resources on the development of a  
14 family resource center grant application package and an innovation  
15 grant application package.

16 (2) Develop guidelines for the competitive awarding of grants and advise  
17 the Secretary of Human Resources on scoring procedures for grant  
18 applications. The guidelines for the awarding of family resource  
19 center grants under G.S. 143B-151.1(b) shall be based primarily on the  
20 need of a school, consortia of schools, or local community, along with  
21 the likelihood of success and the achievement of positive outcomes.  
22 Awarding of innovation grants shall not necessarily be subject to the  
23 requirements contained in G.S. 143B-151.1(b) with regard to  
24 eligibility for free lunch; however, all innovation grants shall be  
25 targeted to meet the needs of children and families projected to be at  
26 risk. The guidelines for the awarding of innovation grants under G.S.  
27 143B-151.1(c) may be based on the need of a local community, but  
28 primarily shall be based on the likelihood of the proposed model's  
29 success, the creative design of the proposed model, and the potential  
30 for subsequent replication of the model in other communities.

31 (3) Develop a process for, and the content of, training and education for  
32 personnel who will be assisting in the preparation of grants.

33 (4) Review scored grant applications and make recommendations on grant  
34 recipients to the Secretary of Human Resources.

35 (5) Develop recommendations with regard to statutes, policies, and rules  
36 so as to improve the effectiveness and timeliness of service delivery  
37 through individual agencies and through collaboration among  
38 agencies.

39 (6) Collect, analyze, evaluate, and disseminate information on initiatives  
40 within and outside North Carolina that are successful or promising in  
41 addressing issues that constitute the focus of this Part.

42 (7) Report at least annually to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of  
43 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairs of  
44 the appropriations committees of the Senate and the House of

1 Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research  
2 Commission's Committee on Students at Risk or any successor  
3 legislative study committees.

4 (b) For purposes of developing and supporting family resource centers under this  
5 Part, the Interagency Task Force on Family Resources shall:

- 6 (1) Formulate before January 1, 1994, a five-year plan for implementing a  
7 network of family resource centers across the State. The plan shall  
8 promote identification and coordination of existing resources. The  
9 plan shall include strategies for implementing the activities for which  
10 grant applicants are required to provide a work plan in accordance with  
11 G.S. 143B-151.4(1)k.
- 12 (2) Develop a process for, and the content of, training and education for  
13 personnel who will be operating the family resource centers, or  
14 assisting grant recipients in operating the centers.
- 15 (3) Develop model procedures that family resource centers can follow for  
16 sharing confidential information with other service providers.
- 17 (4) Evaluate the effectiveness of the family resource centers' activities.
- 18 (5) Compile and analyze data and other information needed to implement  
19 the family resource grant program and to operate the centers, and  
20 identify additional data and information that are needed.
- 21 (6) Work with the Legislative Research Commission's Committee on  
22 Students at Risk or any successor legislative study committees in  
23 developing a timetable and plan for fully implementing a statewide  
24 plan predicated on the philosophy of the family resource centers.
- 25 (7) Formulate a plan for serving the needs of children in grades seven and  
26 above and their families, after the family resource center grant  
27 program is substantially developed.
- 28 (8) Formulate a plan, with a timetable for beginning implementation no  
29 later than January 1, 2000, for expanding family resource centers to all  
30 schools within the State where justifiable need is evident, regardless of  
31 whether twenty-five percent (25%) of the students at that school are  
32 eligible for free meals.

33 (c) For the purpose of developing innovative initiatives for the effective,  
34 comprehensive, and collaborative delivery of services to children and their families,  
35 agencies represented on the Task Force that have corresponding agencies at the county  
36 level shall:

- 37 (1) Determine the counties in which there are personnel who are  
38 committed to the philosophy underlying G.S. 143B-151.
- 39 (2) Engage county-level personnel in developing the most effective  
40 comprehensive, collaborative models possible for the delivery of  
41 services to children and their families that will better enable children to  
42 achieve academic and social success.
- 43 (3) Develop a plan to establish goals and anticipated outcomes for  
44 initiatives, and a system to measure their success.

1           (4) Establish professional development opportunities for personnel within  
2           the agencies that are based on new information that results from the  
3           initiatives.

4           (d) In carrying out its responsibilities under this section, the Task Force may  
5           enter into any consultative and contractual arrangements as are necessary.

6           "**§ 143B-151.4. Powers and duties of the Secretary of Human Resources.**"

7           The Secretary shall:

8           (1) Develop, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
9           Resources, a family resource center grant application package and  
10           provide it to each local school administrative unit in which there are  
11           qualifying schools. The package shall include grant proposal  
12           instructions and grant-scoring procedures. Grant applications may be  
13           submitted by the local school administrative unit or by a consortia of  
14           agencies. The following information shall be provided as a part of  
15           each grant application:

16           a. A statement of the school's or consortium's need for a family  
17           resource center.

18           b. Proposed goals and anticipated outcomes for a center.

19           c. A list of all services that will be provided at the center and a  
20           description of how they will be provided.

21           d. A plan for serving children and their families with the most  
22           urgent needs first.

23           e. Documentation of the approval of each school's building-level  
24           committee convened under G.S. 115C-238.3(b1), and a copy of  
25           each school's building-level plan, which shall reflect the need  
26           for the center and the proposed goals and anticipated outcomes  
27           for the center.

28           f. Evidence of agreement and support from all other service  
29           providers.

30           g. A description of the development, composition, and role of a  
31           local advisory council. This council shall generally reflect the  
32           racial and socioeconomic diversity of the community's  
33           population, and shall generally reflect, but shall not be limited  
34           to, the composition of the Interagency Task Force.

35           h. Strategies to disseminate information.

36           i. A training plan.

37           j. A plan to minimize stigma.

38           k. A work plan for identifying and coordinating existing resources  
39           so as to implement to the extent feasible (i) full-time preschool  
40           child care for children two and three years old, (ii) after-school  
41           child care when school is in session and full-time when it is not  
42           for children four through twelve years old, (iii) an integrated  
43           approach to home visits, group meetings, and the monitoring of  
44           child development for new and expectant parents, (iv) training

- 1                    in developmentally appropriate parenting skills for parents, (v)  
2                    support and training for child day care providers, (vi) health  
3                    services, referral to health services, or both, and (vii) other  
4                    services designed to satisfy unique community needs.
- 5                    l.    Job descriptions for staff.  
6                    m.    Plans to contract for the services of consultants or other  
7                    professionals to provide services or operate the center.  
8                    n.    A description of the center's location and its accessibility to the  
9                    school and to the children and families to be served.  
10                  o.    The hours of operation of the center.  
11                  p.    A proposed budget that includes the use of grant funds and  
12                  funds from other sources.  
13                  q.    A program evaluation plan.  
14                  r.    Letters of endorsement and commitment to the center from  
15                  community agencies and organizations.
- 16                  (2) Develop, upon the advice of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
17                  Resources, an innovation grant application package and provide it to  
18                  each county. The package shall include grant proposal instructions,  
19                  grant-scoring procedures, and a grant application form that requires the  
20                  following information:
- 21                  a.    A statement of the need for the innovation grant.  
22                  b.    A list of all services that will be provided and a description of  
23                  how and where they will be provided.  
24                  c.    Proposed goals and outcomes for the innovative system.  
25                  d.    Evidence of agreement and support from all service providers.  
26                  e.    Documentation of broad-based collaboration among  
27                  governmental agencies, nongovernmental agencies, and other  
28                  persons.  
29                  f.    A plan for serving children and their families with the most  
30                  urgent needs first.  
31                  g.    A description of the development, composition, and role of a  
32                  local advisory council. This council shall generally reflect the  
33                  racial and socioeconomic diversity of the community's  
34                  population, and shall generally reflect, but shall not be limited  
35                  to, the composition of the Interagency Task Force.  
36                  h.    Strategies to disseminate information as to the availability of  
37                  grants.  
38                  i.    A proposed budget that includes the use of grant funds and  
39                  funds from other sources.  
40                  j.    A program evaluation plan.  
41                  k.    A plan to obtain additional funds and resources from non-  
42                  governmental sources.  
43                  l.    Any additional information the Secretary considers necessary.

- 1           (3)    Designate and train a person in each county to assist in the preparation  
2           of grant applications.
- 3           (4)    Adopt, upon the advice of the Task Force, scoring procedures for the  
4           grant applications.
- 5           (5)    Select and train reviewers to score the grant applications.
- 6           (6)    Submit the scored grant applications to the Task Force for its  
7           recommendations.
- 8           (7)    Select grant recipients, after consideration of the recommendations of  
9           the Task Force.
- 10          (8)    Provide technical assistance to the family resource centers.
- 11          (9)    Evaluate the activities of the family resource centers.
- 12          (10) Provide assistance to grant recipients to enable them to pursue  
13          additional sources of funding and other resources.

14   **"§ 143B-151.5. Plans for effective utilization of fiscal resources.**

15        (a)    Each governmental agency that is represented on the Interagency Task Force  
16    on Family Resources shall develop a plan for effective utilization of all fiscal resources,  
17    including federal funds, and other resources under the agency's control in a manner that  
18    best supports the goals of this Part.

19        (b)    Each governmental agency that is represented on the Task Force is  
20    encouraged to establish any commissions the agency considers necessary to develop the  
21    plans required under subsection (a) of this section.

22        (c)    Each governmental agency that is represented on the Task Force shall present  
23    its plan and report on the progress in developing and implementing its plan at least  
24    biannually to the Task Force."

25            Sec. 2. G.S. 115C-21(a) reads as rewritten:

26        "(a)    Administrative Duties. – It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public  
27    Instruction:

- 28           (1)    To organize and establish a Department of Public Instruction which  
29           shall include such divisions and departments as are necessary for  
30           supervision and administration of the public school system, to  
31           administer the funds for the operation of the Department of Public  
32           Instruction, and to enter into contracts for the operations of the  
33           Department of Public Instruction.
- 34           (2)    To keep the public informed as to the problems and needs of the public  
35           schools by constant contact with all school administrators and  
36           teachers, by his personal appearance at public gatherings, and by  
37           information furnished to the press of the State.
- 38           (3)    To report biennially to the Governor 30 days prior to each regular  
39           session of the General Assembly, such report to include information  
40           and statistics of the public schools, with recommendations for their  
41           improvement and for such changes in the school law as shall occur to  
42           him.
- 43           (4)    To have printed and distributed such educational bulletins as he shall  
44           deem necessary for the professional improvement of teachers and for



1 the cultivation of public sentiment for public education, and to have  
2 printed all forms necessary and proper for the administration of the  
3 Department of Public Instruction.

4 (5) To have under his direction, in his capacity as the constitutional head  
5 of the public school system, all those matters relating to the  
6 supervision and administration of the public school system.

7 (5a) To institute and maintain a plan to ensure that schools are ready to  
8 receive children and their families in an environment that is inviting  
9 and supportive and that encourages the families' participation.

10 (6) To create a special fund within the Department of Public Instruction to  
11 manage funds received as grants from nongovernmental sources in  
12 support of public education. The Superintendent may accept grants  
13 and gifts from corporations and other sources made in support of  
14 public education and may hold and disburse such funds, in accordance  
15 with the purposes, conditions, and limitations associated with such  
16 grants and gifts. Any special fund created pursuant to this subdivision  
17 shall be subject to audit by the State Auditor.

18 (7) To have solely under his direction and control all matters relating to  
19 provision of staff services and support to the State Board of Education,  
20 including implementation of federal programs on behalf of the State  
21 Board of Education, except as otherwise provided in the Current  
22 Operations Appropriations Act."

23 Sec. 3. The Frank Porter Graham Center at the University of North Carolina  
24 at Chapel Hill shall conduct a short-term program evaluation and shall develop a system  
25 to measure and analyze the long-term goals and outcomes of the Family Resources  
26 Grant Program established in Section 1 of this act, and shall file a written report no later  
27 than February 15, 1995, with the chair of the Interagency Task Force on Family  
28 Resources, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
29 House of Representatives, the chairs of the appropriations committees of the Senate and  
30 the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research Commission's  
31 Committee on Students at Risk or any successor legislative study committees.

32 Sec. 4. The State Board of Education shall analyze the free lunch data that it  
33 currently gathers to determine its accuracy and to determine whether it reflects the  
34 socioeconomic status of the community in which a school is located. If the Board  
35 determines that the data is inaccurate, the Board shall develop and implement a method  
36 to gather this information in a more accurate manner. The Board shall file a written  
37 report no later than January 15, 1994, with the chair of the Interagency Task Force on  
38 Family Resources, the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker  
39 of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the Legislative Research  
40 Commission's Committee on Students at Risk or any successor legislative study  
41 committees.

42 Sec. 5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
43 Human Resources the sum of nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000) for the

1 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of eight million four hundred fifty thousand dollars  
2 (\$8,450,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to implement the provisions of this act.

3 Of these funds:

4 (1) The sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) shall be used  
5 each year of the biennium by the Department of Human Resources,  
6 Office of the Secretary, for training, materials, and consultation  
7 services.

8 (2) The sum of seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000)  
9 shall be used in the 1994-95 fiscal year for grants of up to seventy-five  
10 thousand dollars (\$75,000) per individual public school or consortia of  
11 public schools to begin implementation of the family resource center  
12 grants established in G.S. 143B-151.1 in order to establish family  
13 resource centers in at least 50 counties. These grants shall be based on  
14 the guidelines established under G.S. 143B-151.3(a)(2).

15 (3) The sum of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) shall be  
16 used each year of the biennium for grants of up to thirty thousand  
17 dollars (\$30,000) per consortia to begin implementation of the  
18 innovation grants established in G.S. 143B-151.1(c). These grants  
19 shall be based on the guidelines established under G.S. 143B-  
20 151.3(a)(2).

21 Sec. 6. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.