

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE BILL 1277

Short Title: Study Child Support System.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford, Phillips, Ballance, Dannelly, Forrester, Hartsell, Kinnaird, Lucas, Purcell, and Wellons.

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

June 5, 2000

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS TO STUDY CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE CHILD SUPPORT SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrative Office of the Courts, in conjunction with local departments of social services, clerks of court, IV-D attorneys, district court judges, representatives of county government, representatives of business and industry, and representatives of child support clients, shall study ways to more effectively coordinate the efforts of the two agencies in regard to collection and enforcement of child support. This study shall include studying the feasibility of the two agencies granting each other access to one another's computer systems or the feasibility of making the computer systems compatible with one another. The study shall also include the development of protocols to facilitate directing individuals to the proper agency for assistance or information. The Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrative Office of the Courts shall report to the Joint Legislative Public Assistance Commission on efforts under this section by October 1, 2000.

1 Section 2. The Department of Health and Human Services and the
2 Administrative Office of the Courts, in conjunction with local departments of social
3 services, clerks of court, IV-D attorneys, district court judges, representatives of county
4 government, representatives of business and industry, and representatives of child support
5 clients, shall study the problems with and barriers to the establishment of a unified
6 system of child support collection and enforcement. This study shall also include
7 estimates of the costs, including any savings, associated with the establishment of a
8 unified system and any advantages or disadvantages associated with the establishment of
9 a unified system over a five-year period. The two agencies shall make recommendations
10 regarding solutions to any problems or barriers to the establishment of a unified system.
11 The Department of Health and Human Services and the Administrative Office of the
12 Courts shall make interim reports to the Joint Legislative Public Assistance Commission
13 on efforts under this section by September 1, 2000, and December 1, 2000, and shall
14 make a final report to the Joint Legislative Public Assistance Commission on efforts
15 under this section by March 1, 2001.

16 Section 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.