

March 4, 1999

H 255. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CHANGES. TO AMEND THE STATUTES INVOLVING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL LAW. Amends GS 143-545.1 (regarding programs of vocational rehabilitation and independent living for persons with disabilities under the DHHS Div'n of Rehabilitation Services) to specify that the rules governing financial need for services must meet the requirements set in federal law and regulations.

Amends GS 143-548 to drop the word "Advisory" from the name of the Vocational Rehabilitation Advisory Council and to expand the membership from 15 to 17 or 18, by adding one additional member appointed by the President Pro Tempore (representing the Comm'n on Workforce Preparedness), one additional member appointed by the Speaker (representing the Dep't of Public Instruction) and one additional member appointed by the Governor, representing the directors of projects carried out under sec. 121 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, if there are such projects in the state. If the Governor appoints five members, three must be individuals with disabilities; if the Governor appoints six, four must be individuals with disabilities. Specifically allocates to the Council certain responsibilities under specified federal statutes.

Intro. by Alexander.

Ref. to Health

GS 143