

May 17, 2006

H 2081. STRENGTHEN STATE MH/DD/SA REFORM. Filed 5/17/06. *TO STRENGTHEN STATE LEADERSHIP FOR SYSTEM REFORM OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES AND TO APPROPRIATE FUND AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES.* Amends GS 122C-102 to require that the State Plan for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (MH/DD/SA Services) developed by the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) be issued every three years and that the State Plan identify specific goals to be achieved and benchmarks for measuring goal progress. Requires that DHHS consult with the Joint Legislative Committee on MH/DD/SA Services before implementing policies. Deletes requirement that State Plan include DHHS's organizational structure. Requires that State Plan also include methods for measuring the State's progress on a number of performance goals set forth in new GS 122C-102(c) and report on that progress beginning October 1, 2006, and every six months after that date. Directs DHHS to review all State Plans implemented after July 1, 2001, and before act's effective date and combine those plans into a single Plan document. Amends GS 122C-112.1(a)(9) to provide that in addition to the assistance with community-based programs already required, the Secretary of DHHS must provide technical assistance to authorities and county programs in the implementation of administrative and management functions.

Appropriates \$1.7 million for 2006-07 from the General Fund to DHHS to hire consultant(s) to: (1) assist with strategic planning; (2) increase the capacity of DHHS to implement system reform; (3) assist the Division of MH/DD/SA Services to develop and implement five to ten critical performance indicators for management of the MH/DD/SA Services system no later than July 1, 2007, standardize utilization management functions for Medicaid and non-Medicaid services and the review and approval of person-centered plans, develop expertise so counties and authorities can assume utilization management for Medicaid services no later than July 1, 2009, develop a standardized operation procedure for authorities and counties, and implement other uniform procedures for program management; and (4) provide technical assistance and oversight to private service providers, authorities, and counties to ensure service definition model compliance. Also appropriates \$300,000 for 2006-07 from the General Fund to DHHS, Division of MD/DD/SA Services, for three full-time positions to create a Local Management Entity Strategic Assistance Team to assist local management entities develop, implement, and maintain their statutory responsibilities.

Effective July 1, 2006.

Intro. by Insko.

GS 122C, APPROP