April 18, 2007

H 1717. CHILDREN & FAMILY SVCES/DEEMED STATUS. Filed 4/18/07. TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO GRANT DEEMED STATUS TO CERTAIN NONGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES OR SERVICE PROVIDERS OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; TO AMEND CERTAIN LICENSE RENEWALS AND AUDIT PROCESSES IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A LEAD AGENCY TO COORDINATE COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS WHEN LAWS OR RULES UNDER THE ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITY OF MULTIPLE DHHS AGENCIES ARE INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION.

Amends GS 122C-22 to direct the Commission for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services to adopt a procedure for nongovernmental providers of mental health services to be deemed to meet the requirements for licensure to provide mental health services. Amends GS 131D-10.3 to provide that providers of services for people in therapeutic foster homes are deemed to be licensed under state law if they meet licensing requirements of certain specified national organizations. Adds new GS 108A-55.5 to allow accredited providers who meet certain criteria to be audited every two years to determined if they should retain their status as providers. Adds GS 143B-139.6C to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a lead agency when investigations involve multiple agencies. Effective October 1, 2007.

Intro. by Holliman.

GS 108A, 122C, 131D, 143B