

March 16, 2009

S 615. DHHS SUPPORT/PERSONS W/DEV. DISABILITIES. Filed 3/16/09. *TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS TO IMPROVE SUPPORTS FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.*

Amends GS 122C-115.4(b) to add to the list of the primary functions of Local Management Entities (LMEs) that each LME must develop a waiting list of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities that are waiting for specific services. Requires the use of standardized criteria developed by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to ensure that data is collected consistently across LMEs. Specifies that data collected include the number of individuals that are (1) waiting for residential services, (2) potentially eligible for the Community Alternatives Program for Persons with Mental Retardation/ Developmental Disabilities (CAP-MRDD), and (3) in need of other state-funded services and supports. Requires LMEs to annually report the data to DHHS.

Amends GS 122C-112.1(a) to require the Secretary of DHHS to develop a statewide data system containing the wait list information obtained by LMEs. Directs DHHS to (1) develop standardized criteria for reporting waiting list data and (2) use the data for statewide planning and needs projects. Requires DHHS to report annually to the Joint Legislative Oversight Commission on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services with its recommendations, including indicating the services most in need throughout the state, plans to address unmet needs, and any cost projects to provide needed services. Also requires that DHHS (1) ensure that state-funded developmental disability services are authorized on an annual basis unless a change in the individual's person-centered plan indicates a different authorization frequency and (2) develop developmental disability service definitions that allow for funding a person-centered plan.

Effective July 1, 2009.

Intro. by Atwater.

GS 122C