to amend the bill on page 259, lines 19-20, by inserting the following new section between the lines:

"STUDY DIRECT CARE WORKERS SERVING INDIVIDUALS IN THE INNOVATIONS WAIVER PROGRAM AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ANY RECOMMENDED INCREASE IN THOSE WORKERS' WAGES

SECTION 9D.15C. No later than March 1, 2022, and annually thereafter for the next five years, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Benefits (DHB), shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Medicaid and NC Health Choice that contains all of the following information regarding direct care workers who serve Medicaid beneficiaries receiving services through the NC Innovations waiver program:

(1) Statewide data on the number of these licensed and non-licensed direct care workers by worker classification.
(2) Identification of providers that employ these direct care workers.
(3) The weekly average number of hours worked by individuals serving in these positions.
(4) The average and range of wages paid to these workers.
(5) The average length of employment of these workers by any one provider.
(6) An assessment of whether the wages of licensed direct care workers, non-licensed direct care workers, or both need to be increased. If DHB determines that there is a need for an increase in wages, then DHB shall develop a plan, or update to a previously submitted plan as applicable, for such increase."

SIGNED ____________________________
Amendment Sponsor

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