

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL DRS15403-LUa-131A

Short Title: Luggage for Children Placed in Foster Care. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Jones and Settle (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO
3 PROVIDE NEW LUGGAGE FOR A CHILD PLACED IN FOSTER CARE.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
5 SECTION 1.(a) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
6 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services (Division), the sum of one hundred
7 forty-two thousand dollars (\$142,000) in recurring funds beginning in the 2026-2027 fiscal year
8 and the sum of three hundred thirty-five thousand eight hundred eighty dollars (\$335,880) in
9 nonrecurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be allocated to county departments of social
10 services to provide new luggage to a child placed in foster care who is being removed from a
11 household. These funds shall be used to provide new luggage to (i) children who are new entrants
12 into the foster care system and (ii) children currently in foster care. The Department may solicit
13 and accept gifts, grants, and donations of any kind and from any source in implementing the
14 provisions of this act. For purposes of this act, "new luggage" means a suitcase, duffel bag,
15 backpack, or similar container that is designed to hold an individual's personal belongings and
16 has not previously been used. The term does not include a disposable bag.
17 SECTION 1.(b) By December 1 of each year, the Division shall submit a report to
18 the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal
19 Research Division on each of the following:
20 (1) The number of instances a disposable bag was used to transport the personal
21 belongings of a child in foster care and the reason the county department of
22 social services responsible for placement of the child failed to provide the
23 child with new luggage.
24 (2) The supply and inventory management procedures for the new luggage
25 supply.
26 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2026.



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