

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 97-101, the Commission may suspend collection or remit all or part of any civil penalty imposed under this section on condition that the employer or person pays ~~the~~any compensation due and complies with G.S. 97-93."

INSURANCE REGULATORY FEE

SECTION 22.2. The percentage rate to be used in calculating the insurance regulatory charge under G.S. 58-6-25 is six and one-half percent (6.5%) for the 2019 calendar year.

PART XXIII. BIPARTISAN STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS ENFORCEMENT

HAVA FUNDS

SECTION 23.1. By October 1, 2018, the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement (State Board) shall submit a status report on the use of 2018 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government and the Joint Legislative Elections Oversight Committee. The report shall include a budget and a time frame for using the HAVA funds for security upgrades and other necessary improvements. Additionally, the State Board shall report on any remaining HAVA funds awarded from prior federal grants.

PART XXIV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CHILD WELL-BEING TRANSFORMATION COUNCIL

SECTION 24.1.(a) Article 82 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is repealed.

SECTION 24.1.(b) North Carolina Child Well-Being Transformation Council Creation; Purpose; Findings. – There is established the North Carolina Child Well-Being Transformation Council (Children's Council) for the purpose of coordinating, collaborating, and communicating among agencies and organizations involved in providing public services to children. The welfare of North Carolina's children is a priority. There are many public and private agencies and organizations across the State involved with promoting the welfare of children and protecting them from harm, such as those involving child care, education, health care, social services, and juvenile justice. Though these agencies and organizations provide important services, they often fail to collaborate, coordinate, and communicate about those services. A more systematic and coordinated approach to services will help ensure that the State achieves the best possible outcomes for children.

SECTION 24.1.(c) Membership. – The Children's Council shall be located administratively in the General Assembly. The Children's Council shall consist of 25 members. In making appointments, each appointing authority shall select members who have appropriate experience and knowledge of the issues to be examined by the Children's Council and shall strive to ensure members are appointed who represent the geographical, political, gender, and racial diversity of this State. The Children's Council members shall be appointed on or after September 1, 2018, as follows:

- (1) Six members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, as follows:
 - a. Two shall be members of the Senate.
 - b. One shall be a representative from the Administrative Office of the Courts.
 - c. One shall be a representative from a child welfare private provider organization.
 - d. One shall be a representative from The Duke Endowment.

- e. One shall be a representative from the North Carolina Pediatric Society.
- (2) Six members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as follows:
 - a. Two shall be members of the House of Representatives.
 - b. One shall be a representative from the Department of Public Instruction.
 - c. One shall be a representative from Indigent Defense Services.
 - d. One shall be a representative from the United States military.
 - e. One shall be a representative of the Hospital Association.
- (3) Thirteen members shall be appointed by the Governor, as follows:
 - a. One shall be a representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education.
 - b. One shall be a representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services.
 - c. One shall be a representative from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Juvenile Justice.
 - d. One shall be a representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.
 - e. One shall be a representative from the Guardian ad Litem program.
 - f. One shall be a representative from Disability Rights NC.
 - g. One shall be a representative from a local management entity/managed care organization (LME/MCO).
 - h. Two shall be representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, one with expertise in substance abuse disorders and one with expertise in children's health.
 - i. One shall be a representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance.
 - j. One shall be a representative from Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina.
 - k. One shall be a representative from the North Carolina Child Fatality Task Force.
 - l. One shall be a director of a county department of social services.

SECTION 24.1.(d) Vacancies. – A vacancy shall be filled within 30 days by the authority making the initial appointment.

SECTION 24.1.(e) Organization. – The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each designate a cochair of the Children's Council, who shall serve for a term of one year. The Children's Council shall meet quarterly each year upon the call of the cochairs. A majority of the membership of the Children's Council shall constitute a quorum. No action may be taken except by a majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present. The Open Meetings Law, Article 33C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, shall apply to the Children's Council.

SECTION 24.1.(f) Powers and Duties. – The Children's Council shall direct its focus on the following initiatives:

- (1) Mapping the network of child-serving agencies and organizations in the State.
- (2) Cataloging examples of failures in coordination, collaboration, and communication in the context of child welfare.

- (3) Reviewing the work of bodies similar to the Children's Council operating in other states to identify promising practices and focus areas for the Children's Council's work.
- (4) Monitoring changes in the social services and child welfare system associated with reform and regional supervision.
- (5) Identifying gaps in coordination, collaboration, and communication related to all publicly funded child serving programs.
- (6) Recommending changes in law, policy, or practice necessary to remedy gaps or problems impacting coordination, collaboration, and communication among publicly funded child-serving agencies.

SECTION 24.1.(g) Staff. – The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Children's Council in its work, including, after consultation with the Council, an individual who has recognized expertise in matters related to children's welfare to support the work of the Council. Upon the direction of the Legislative Services Commission, the Director of Legislative Assistants of the Senate and of the House of Representatives shall assign clerical staff to the Children's Council. Subject to approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Children's Council may hold meetings in the Legislative Complex.

SECTION 24.1.(h) Subsistence. – Members of the Children's Council shall receive subsistence and travel expenses as provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6.

SECTION 24.1.(i) Reporting; Termination. – By June 30, 2019, the Children's Council shall submit an interim report to the chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include a summary of the Council's work for the previous year, any findings and recommendations for change, and a work plan for the upcoming year. By June 30, 2020, the Children's Council shall submit a final report and shall terminate on that date.

SECTION 24.1.(j) The School of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill shall do all of the following:

- (1) Convene the first meeting of the Children's Council no later than October 31, 2018, and host the first four meetings of the Children's Council.
- (2) Facilitate the work of the Children's Council during the meetings. The Children's Council shall focus on the initiatives outlined in subsection (f) of this section.
- (3) Provide necessary clerical and administrative support for the meetings in collaboration with clerical staff assigned to the Children's Council pursuant to subsection (g) of this section; conduct research and provide technical assistance, as appropriate; and assist with the preparation of the Children's Council first report due on June 30, 2019.

SECTION 24.1.(k) Subsection (a) of this section becomes effective June 30, 2018.

PART XXV. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR [RESERVED]

PART XXVI. OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

RESULTS FIRST PROJECT/PERFORMANCE-BASED MANAGEMENT IN STATE BUDGETING

SECTION 26.1.(a) Section 26.3 of S.L. 2017-57 is amended by adding a new subsection to read as follows: