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THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA

1981 CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENT

Annotated, under the Supervision of the Department of
Justice, by the Editorial Staff of the Publishers

Under the Direction of
D. P. HARRIMAN, S. C. WILLARD, SYLVIA FAULKNER
AND D. E. SELBY, JR.

Volume 3A, Part 1

1978 Replacement

Annotated through 302 N.C. 222 and 50 N.C. App. 567. For
complete scope of annotations, see scope of volume page.

**Place in Pocket of Corresponding Volume of Main Set.
This Supersedes Previous Supplement, Which
May Be Retained for Reference Purposes.**

THE MICHIE COMPANY
Law Publishers
CHARLOTTEVILLE, VIRGINIA
1981

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Preface

This Supplement to Replacement Volume 3A, part 1, contains the general laws of a permanent nature enacted by the General Assembly at the second 1977 Session, the 1979 Sessions and the 1981 Session through October 10, 1981 which are within the scope of such volume, and brings to date the annotations included therein.

Amendments of former laws are inserted under the same section numbers appearing in the General Statutes, and new laws appear under the proper chapter headings. Editor's notes point out many of the chapters effected by the amendatory acts.

Chapter analyses show all sections except catchlines carried for the purpose of notes only. An index to all statutes codified herein will appear in Replacement Volumes 4B and 4C.

A majority of the Session Laws are made effective upon ratification, but a few provide for stated effective dates. If the Session Law makes no provision for an effective date, the law becomes effective under G.S. 120-20 "from and after 30 days after the adjournment of the session" in which passed. All legislation appearing herein became effective upon ratification, unless noted to the contrary in an editor's note or an effective date note.

Beginning with the opinions issued by the North Carolina Attorney General on July 1, 1969, any opinion which construes a specific statute will be cited as an annotation to that statute. For a copy of an opinion or of its headnotes write the Attorney General, P.O. Box 629, Raleigh, N.C. 27602.

The members of the North Carolina Bar are requested to communicate any defects they may find in the General Statutes or in this Supplement and any suggestions they may have for improving the General Statutes, to the Department of Justice of the State of North Carolina, or to The Michie Company, Law Publishers, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Scope of Volume

Statutes:

Permanent portions of the general laws enacted by the General Assembly at the second 1977 Session, the 1979 Sessions and the 1981 Session through October 10, 1981 affecting Chapters 106 through 112 of the General Statutes.

Annotations:

Sources of the annotations to the General Statutes appearing in this volume are:

- North Carolina Reports through volume 302, p. 222.
- North Carolina Court of Appeals Reports through volume 50, p. 567.
- Federal Reporter 2nd Series through volume 650, p. 292.
- Federal Supplement through volume 515, p. 55.
- Federal Rules Decision through volume 89, p. 719.
- Bankruptcy Reporter through volume 11, p. 138.
- United States Reports through volume 449, p. 410.
- Supreme Court Reporter through volume 101, p. 2881.
- North Carolina Law Review.
- Wake Forest Law Review.
- Campbell Law Review.
- Duke Law Journal.
- North Carolina Central Law Journal.
- Opinions of the Attorney General.

The General Statutes of North Carolina 1981 Cumulative Supplement

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ARTICLE 1.

Department of Agriculture.

Part 1. Board of Agriculture.

§ 106-6.1. Fees not to exceed actual cost.

Fees or charges established by any board or commission within the Department of Agriculture for services rendered or for duties performed shall not exceed the actual cost to the Department of rendering such service or performing such duty. As used herein, "cost" shall mean expenses incurred for mileage, subsistence, postage, computer time, salaries, materials, supplies, or other similar expenses which are incurred as a direct result of rendering the service or performing the duty. As used herein, "cost" shall not include fixed overhead expenses such as buildings, equipment, machinery, or other similar expenses which are indirectly related to a particular service or duty. (1981, c. 495, s. 10.)

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§ 106-21.1. Feed Advisory Service; fee.

The Department of Agriculture shall establish, as a pilot program, a Feed Advisory Service for the analysis of animal feeds in order to provide a feeding management service to all animal producers in North Carolina. A fee of five dollars (\$5.00) shall accompany each feed sample sent to the Department for testing. (1979, c. 1026.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1979, c. 1026, s. 2, makes this section effective July 1, 1979.

§ 106-21.2. Food Bank information and referral service.

The Department of Agriculture may maintain an information and referral service for persons and organizations that have notified the department of their desire to donate food to a nonprofit organization or a nonprofit corporation. (1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1188, s. 2.)

§ 106-22. Joint duties of Commissioner and Board.

The Commissioner of Agriculture, by and with the consent and advice of the Board of Agriculture shall:

- (1) **General.** — Investigate and promote such subjects relating to the improvement of agriculture, the beneficial use of commercial fertilizers and composts, and for the inducement of immigration and capital as he may think proper; but he is especially charged:
- (2) **Commercial Fertilizers.** — With such supervision of the trade in commercial fertilizers as will best protect the interests of the farmers, and shall report to district attorneys and to the General Assembly information as to the existence or formation of trusts or combinations in fertilizers or fertilizing materials which are or may be offered for sale in this State, whereby the interests of the farmers may be injuriously affected, and shall publish such information in the Bulletin of the Department;
- (3) **Cattle and Cattle Diseases.** — With investigations adapted to promote the improvement of milk and beef cattle, and especially investigations relating to the diseases of cattle and other domestic animals, and shall publish and distribute from time to time information relative to any contagious diseases of stock, and suggest remedies therefor, and shall have power in such cases to quarantine the infected animals and to regulate the transportation of stock in this State, or from one section of it to another, and may cooperate with the United States Department of Agriculture in establishing and maintaining cattle districts or quarantine lines, to prevent the infection of cattle from splenic or Spanish fever. Any person willfully violating such regulations shall be liable in a civil action to any person injured, and for any and all damages resulting from such conduct, and shall also be guilty of a misdemeanor;
- (4) **Honey and Bee Industry.** — With investigations adapted to promote the improvement of the honey and bee industry in this State, and especially investigations relating to the disease of bees, and shall publish and distribute from time to time information relative to such diseases, and such remedies therefor, and shall have power in such cases to quarantine the infected bees and to control or eradicate such infections and to regulate the transportation or importation into North Carolina from any other state or country of bees, honey, hives, or any apiary equipment, or from one section of the State to another, and may cooperate with the United States Department of Agriculture in establishing and maintaining quarantine lines or districts. The Commissioner of Agriculture, by and with the consent and advice of the Board of Agriculture, shall have power to make rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section; and in event of failure to comply with any such rules and regulations, the Commissioner of Agriculture or his duly authorized agent is authorized to

- confiscate and destroy any infected bees and equipment and any bees and/or used apiary equipment moved in violation of these regulations;
- (5) Insect Pests. — With investigations relative to the ravages of insects and with the dissemination of such information as may be deemed essential for their abatement, and making regulations for destruction of such insects. The willful violation of any of such regulations by any person shall be a misdemeanor;
 - (6) New Agricultural Industries. — With investigations and experiments directed to the introduction and fostering of new agricultural industries, adapted to the various climates and soils of the State, especially the culture of truck and market gardens, the grape and other fruits;
 - (7) Drainage and Irrigation; Fertilizer Sources. — With the investigations of the subject of drainage and irrigation and publication of information as to the best methods of both, and what surfaces, soils, and locations may be most benefited by such improvements; also with the collection and publication of information in regard to localities, character, accessibility, cost, and modes of utilization of native mineral and domestic sources of fertilizers, including formulae for composting adapted to the different crops, soils, and materials;
 - (8) Farm Fences. — With the collection of statistics relating to the subject of farm fences, with suggestions for diminishing their cost, and the conditions under which they may be dispensed with altogether;
 - (9) Sales of Fertilizers, Seeds, and Food Products. — With the enforcement and supervision of the laws which are or may be enacted in this State for the sale of commercial fertilizers, seeds and food products, with the authority to make regulations concerning the same;
 - (10) Inducement of Capital and Immigration. — With the inducement of capital and immigration by the dissemination of information relative to the advantages of soil and climate and to the natural resources and industrial opportunities offered in this State, by the keeping of a land registry and by the publication of descriptions of agricultural, mineral, forest, and trucking lands which may be offered the Department for sale; which publication shall be in tabulated form, setting forth the county, township, number of acres, names and addresses of owners, and such other information as may be needful in placing inquiring homeseekers in communication with landowners; and he shall publish a list of such inquiries in the Bulletin for the benefit of those who may have land for sale;
 - (11) Diversified Farming. — With such investigations as will best promote the improvement and extension of diversified farming, including the rotation of crops, the raising of home supplies, vegetables, fruits, stock, grasses, etc.;
 - (12) Farmers' Institutes. — With the holding of farmers' institutes in the several counties of the State, as frequently as may be deemed advisable, in order to instruct the people in improved methods in farming, in the beneficial use of fertilizers and composts, and to ascertain the wants and necessities of the various farming communities; and may collect the papers and addresses made at these institutes and publish the same in pamphlet form annually for distribution among the farmers of the State. He may secure such assistants as may be necessary or beneficial in holding such institutes;
 - (13) Publication of Bulletin. — The Commissioner shall publish bulletins which shall contain a list of the fertilizers and fertilizing materials registered for sale each year, the guaranteed constituents of each brand, reports of analyses of fertilizers, the dates of meeting and reports of farmers' institutes and similar societies, description of farm

buildings suited to our climate and needs, reports of interesting experiments of farmers, and such other matters as may be deemed advisable. The Department may determine the number of bulletins which shall be issued each year;

- (14) Reports to Legislature. — He shall transmit to the General Assembly at each session a report of the operations of the Department with suggestions of such legislation as may be deemed needful;
- (15) State Museum. — He shall keep a museum or collection to illustrate the cultural and other resources and the natural history of the State.
- (16) State Agricultural Policies. — Establish State government policies relating to agriculture.
- (17) Agronomic Testing. — Provide agronomic testing services and charge reasonable fees for plant analysis and nematode testing. (1901, c. 479, s. 4; Rev., ss. 3294, 3724, 3944; 1917, c. 16; C. S., s. 4688; 1939, c. 173; 1973, c. 47, s. 2; 1979, c. 344, s. 1; 1981, c. 495, s. 9.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment added subdivision (16). antitrust and unfair trade practice law in North Carolina, with federal law compared, see 50 N.C.L. Rev. 199 (1972).
 The 1981 amendment added subdivision (17).
Legal Periodicals. — For an article on

Part 5. Cooperation between Department and United States Department of Agriculture, and County Commissioners.

§ 106-24. Collection and publication of information relating to agriculture; cooperation.

The Department of Agriculture shall collect, compile, systematize, tabulate, and publish statistical information relating to agriculture. The Department is authorized to use sample surveys to collect primary data relating to agriculture. The Department is authorized to cooperate with the United States Department of Agriculture and the several boards of county commissioners of the State, to accomplish the purpose of this Part. (1921, c. 201, s. 1; C. S., s. 4689(a); 1941, c. 343; 1975, c. 611, s. 1; 1979, c. 228, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment added the second sentence, deleted "said" after "The" near the beginning of the third sentence, and substituted "this Part" for "G.S. 106-24 to 106-26.2" at the end of that sentence.

§ 106-24.1. Confidentiality of information collected and published.

All information published by the Department of Agriculture pursuant to this Part shall be classified so as to prevent the identification of information received from individual farm operators. All information received pursuant to this Part from individual farm operators shall be held confidential by the Department and its employees. (1979, c. 228, s. 3.)

§§ 106-25 to 106-26.2: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 288, s. 2.

ARTICLE 4C.

*Structural Pest Control Act.***Repeal of Article. —**

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-65.29. Rules and regulations.

In order to ensure that persons licensed and certified under this Article are capable of performing a high quality of workmanship, the Committee is hereby authorized and empowered to make rules and regulations with respect to:

- (1) The amount and kind of training required of an applicant for a license and certified applicator's card to engage in any one or more of the three phases of structural pest control.
- (2) The type, frequency and passing score of any examination given an applicant for a license and certified applicator's card under this Article.
- (3) The amount, kind and frequency of continuing education required of a licensee and certified applicator.
- (4) The methods and materials to be used in performing any work authorized by the issuance of a license and certified applicator's card under this Article.
- (5) The business records to be made and maintained by licensees and certified applicators under this Article necessary for the Committee to determine whether the licensee and certified applicator is performing a high quality of workmanship.
- (6) The credentials and identification required of licensees and certified applicators, their employees and equipment, including service vehicles, when engaged in any work defined under this Article.
- (7) Safety methods and procedures for structural pest control work.
- (8) Fees for reinspection following a finding of a discrepancy, as defined by the Committee.

Such rules and regulations shall not become effective until a public hearing shall have been held and notification of such hearing shall have been given to all licensees and certified applicators. (1955, c. 1017; 1967, c. 1184, s. 8; 1975, c. 570, s. 14; 1977, c. 231, s. 9; 1981, c. 495, s. 3.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added subdivision (8).

§ 106-65.31. Annual certified applicator card and license fee; registration of servicemen, salesmen, solicitors, and estimators; identification cards.

(a) **Certified Applicator's Card. —** The fee for issuance or renewal of a certified applicator's identification card for any one phase or more of structural pest control, as the same is defined in G.S. 106-65.25, shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00). Certified applicator's identification cards shall expire on June 30 of each year and shall be renewed annually. All certified applicators who fail or neglect to renew their certified applicator's identification card issued under the provisions of this Article on or before June 30 of each year in which they hold a valid certified applicator's identification card but make application before

October 1 of that year shall be renewed without the applicant having to be reexamined unless the provisions of this Article the applicant is scheduled for periodic reexamination (G.S. 106-65.27(e)(2) [106-65.27(d)(3)]). All applicants submitting applications for the renewal of their certified applicator's identification cards after June 30 and before October 1 of that year shall (i) not use or supervise the use of any restricted use pesticides after June 30 of that year until he has been issued a valid certified applicator's identification card and (ii) pay, in addition to the annual certification fee, the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for each phase of structural pest control in which he is applying for certification before his certified applicator's identification card is renewed. Any certified applicator whose employment is terminated with a licensee or agent prior to the end of said license year may at any time prior to the end of said license year be reissued a certified applicator's identification card for the remainder of the license year as an employee of another licensee or agency or as an individual for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

Any certified applicator whose identification card is lost or destroyed may secure a duplicate identification card for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

The fees for a certified applicator's identification shall not apply to agents or agencies of the federal, State, or local governments.

(b) License. — The fee for the issuance of a license for any phase of structural pest control, as the same is defined in G.S. 106-65.25, shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00); provided, that when or any time after the fee for a license for any one phase is paid, the holder of said license may secure a license for either or both of the other two phases for an additional fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per license phase. Licenses shall expire on June 30 of each year and shall be renewed annually. Any licensee who fails or neglects to renew any license issued under the provisions of this Article on or before August 1 of each year shall pay, in addition to the annual fee, the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each phase before his license is renewed.

Any licensee whose license is lost or destroyed may secure a duplicate license for a fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

A license holder shall register with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture within 75 days of employment the names of all certified applicators, estimators, salesmen, servicemen and solicitors (not common laborers) and shall pay a registration fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each name registered, which fee shall accompany the registration. This registration fee shall not apply to a certified applicator. All registrations expire when a license expires. Each employee of a licensee for whom registration is made and registration fee paid shall be issued an identification card which shall be carried on the person of the employee at all times when performing any phase of structural pest control work. An identification card shall be renewed annually by payment of a renewal fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00). An identification card shall be displayed upon demand to the Commissioner, or his authorized representative, or to the person for whom any phase of structural pest control work is being performed. When an identification card is lost or destroyed, the licensee shall secure a duplicate identification card for which he shall pay a fee of one dollar (\$1.00). This one dollar (\$1.00) fee shall not apply to a certified applicator's identification card. The licensee shall be responsible for registering and securing identification cards for all employees who are estimators, salesmen, servicemen, and solicitors.

It shall be unlawful for an estimator, serviceman, salesman or solicitor to engage in the performance of any work covered by this Article without having first secured and having in his possession an identification card. It shall be unlawful for a licensee to direct or procure any salesman, serviceman or estimator to engage in the performance of any work covered by this Article without having first applied for an identification card for such employee or agent; provided, however, that the licensee shall have 75 days after employing

a serviceman, salesman or estimator within which to apply for an identification card.

All registrations and applications for licenses and identification cards shall be filed with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

No person shall act as an estimator, serviceman, salesman, solicitor, or agent for any licensee under this Article nor shall any such person be issued an identification card by the Structural Pest Control Committee who has within three years of the date of application for an identification card been convicted of, plead guilty or nolo contendere, or forfeited bond in any court, State or federal, to a crime involving moral turpitude or to any violation of the North Carolina Structural Pest Control Act or to any regulation promulgated by the Structural Pest Control Committee. This provision shall not apply to any person whose citizenship has been restored as provided by law.

No person or business shall advertise as a contractor for structural pest control services nor actually contract for such services unless that person or business advertises or contracts in the name of the company shown on the license certificate of the licensee or identification card of the certified applicator who will perform the services. (1955, c. 1017; 1957, c. 1243, s. 4; 1967, c. 1184, s. 10; 1973, c. 47, s. 2; c. 556, s. 10; 1975, c. 570, s. 16; 1981, c. 495, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added the last sentence of the first paragraph of subsection (a).

§ 106-65.39. Judicial enforcement.

The commissioner may apply to either the superior or district court for an injunction to prevent and restrain violations of this Article and the rules and regulations adopted under this Article, provided however, that the district court shall have original jurisdiction to hear and determine alleged misdemeanor violations of the Article and the rules and regulations of the committee. (1977, c. 231, s. 13; 1981, c. 836.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted the present provisions for the former section which read: "The superior court is vested with jurisdiction specifically to enforce

and to prevent and restrain violations of this Article and shall have jurisdiction in all other cases arising under this Article."

ARTICLE 5A.

Marketing of Farmers Stock Peanuts.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 8.

Sale, etc., of Agricultural Liming Material, etc.

§§ 106-81 to 106-92: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 284.

Cross References. — For present provisions liming materials etc., see §§ 106-92.1 to as to the regulation of the sale of agricultural 106-92.17.

ARTICLE 8A.

Sale of Agricultural Liming Materials and Landplaster.

§ 106-92.1. Title of Article.

This Article shall be known as the North Carolina Agricultural Liming Materials and Landplaster Act. (1979, c. 590.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1979, c. 590, s. 2, makes this Article effective July 1, 1980.

§ 106-92.2. Purpose of Article.

The purpose of this Article shall be to assure the manufacturer, distributor, and consumer of the correct quality and quantity of all agricultural liming materials and landplaster sold in this State. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.3. Definitions of terms.

For the purpose of this Article:

- (1) "Agricultural liming materials" means oxides, hydroxides, silicates or carbonates of calcium and/or magnesium compounds capable of neutralizing soil acidity.
- (1a) "Agricultural liming material and fertilizer mixture" means any agricultural liming material combined with a single fertilizer element or single plant nutrient.
- (2) "Brand" means the term, designation, trademark, product name or other specific designation truly descriptive of the product under which individual agricultural liming material is offered for sale.
- (3) "Bulk" means in nonpackaged form.
- (4) "Burnt lime" means a material, made from limestone which consists essentially of calcium oxide or combination of calcium oxide with magnesium oxide.
- (5) "Calcitic limestone" means limestone which contains less than six percent (6%) magnesium from magnesium carbonate.
- (6) "Calcium carbonate equivalent" means the acid neutralizing capacity of an agricultural liming material expressed as weight percentage of calcium carbonate.
- (7) "Dolomitic limestone" means limestone having a minimum of six percent (6%) magnesium from magnesium carbonate.
- (8) "Fineness" means the percentage by weight of the material which will pass U. S. Standard sieves of specified sizes.
- (9) "Hydrated lime" means a material, made from burnt lime, which consists essentially of calcium hydroxide or a combination of calcium hydroxide with magnesium oxide and/or magnesium hydroxide.

- (10) "Industrial by-product liming material" means any industrial waste or by-product containing calcium or calcium and magnesium in forms that will neutralize soil acidity.
- (11) "Label" means any written or printed matter on or attached to the package or on the delivery ticket which accompanies bulk shipments.
- (12) "Landplaster" means a material containing calcium sulfate.
- (13) "Limestone" means a material consisting essentially of calcium carbonate or a combination of calcium carbonate with magnesium carbonate capable of neutralizing soil acidity.
- (14) "Marl" means a granular or loosely consolidated earth-like material composed largely of sea shell fragments and calcium carbonate.
- (15) "Percent" or "percentage" which means by weight.
- (16) "Person" means individual, partnership, association, firm or corporation.
- (17) "Sale" means any transfer of title or possession, or both, exchange or barter of tangible personal property, conditional or otherwise for a consideration paid or to be paid, and this shall include any of said transactions whereby title or ownership is to pass and shall further mean and include any bailment, loan, lease, rental or license to use or consume tangible personal property for a consideration paid in which possession of said property passes to bailee, borrower, lessee, or licensee.
- (18) "Sell" means the alienation, exchange, transfer or contract for such transfer of property for a fixed price in money or its equivalent.
- (19) "Suspension lime" means a product made by mixing agricultural liming materials with water and a suspending agent.
- (20) "Ton" means a net weight of 2,000 pounds avoirdupois.
- (21) "Weight" means the weight of undried material as offered for sale. (1979, c. 590; 1981, c. 449, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective July 1, 1981, added subdivision (1a).

§ 106-92.4. Enforcing official.

This Article shall be administered by the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of North Carolina, or his authorized agent, hereinafter referred to as the "Commissioner." (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.5. Labeling.

(a) Agricultural liming materials sold, offered for sale or distributed in the State shall have affixed to each package in a conspicuous manner on the outside thereof, a plainly printed, stamped or otherwise marked label, tag or statement, or in the case of bulk sales, a delivery slip, setting forth at least the following information:

- (1) The name and principal office address of the manufacturer or distributor.
- (2) The brand or trade name truly descriptive of the material.
- (3) The identification of the product as to the type of the agricultural liming material.
- (4) The net weight of the agricultural liming material.
- (5) The minimum percentages of calcium and magnesium.

- (6) Calcium carbonate equivalent as determined by methods prescribed by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists. Minimum calcium carbonate equivalent shall be prescribed by regulation.
- (7) The minimum percent by weight passing through U. S. Standard sieves as prescribed by regulations.

(b) Landplaster sold, offered for sale or distributed in this State shall have affixed to each package in a conspicuous manner on the outside thereof, a plainly printed, stamped or otherwise marked label, tag or statement, or in the case of bulk sales, a delivery slip, setting forth at least the following information:

- (1) The name and address of the manufacturer or distributor guaranteeing the registration.
- (2) The brand or trade name of the material.
- (3) The net weight.
- (4) The guaranteed analysis showing the minimum percentage of calcium sulfate. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.6. Prohibited acts.

(a) Agricultural liming material or landplaster shall not be sold or offered for sale or distributed in this State unless it complies with provisions of this law or regulations.

(b) Agricultural liming material or landplaster shall not be sold or offered for sale in this State which contains toxic materials in quantities injurious to plants or animals. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.7. Registration of brands.

(a) Each separately identified product shall be registered before being sold, offered for sale, or distributed in this State. Registration fee shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each separately identified product in packages of 10 pounds or less. For each other separately identified product registration fee shall be five dollars (\$5.00). The application for registration shall be submitted to the Commissioner on forms furnished by the Commissioner and shall be accompanied by the appropriate registration fee. Upon approval by the Commissioner, a copy of the registration shall be furnished to the applicant. All registrations expire on June 30 of each year.

(b) A distributor shall not be required to register any brand of agricultural liming material or landplaster which is already registered under this Article by another person, providing the label does not differ in any respect. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.8. Tonnage fees: reporting system.

For the purpose of defraying expenses connected with the registration, inspection and analysis of the materials coming under this Article, each manufacturer or registrant shall pay to the Department of Agriculture tonnage fees in addition to registration fees as follows: for agricultural liming material, ten cents (10¢) per ton; for landplaster, ten cents (10¢) per ton; excepting that these fees shall not apply to materials which are sold to fertilizer manufacturers for the sole purpose for use in the manufacture of fertilizer or to materials when sold in packages of 10 pounds or less.

Any manufacturer, importer, jobber, firm, corporation or person who distributes materials coming under this Article in this State shall make application for a permit to report the materials sold and pay the tonnage fees as set forth in this section.

The Commissioner of Agriculture shall grant such permits on the following conditions: The applicant's agreement that he will keep such records as may be necessary to indicate accurately the tonnage of liming materials, etc., sold in the State and his agreement for the Commissioner or this authorized representative to examine such records to verify the tonnage statement. The registrant shall report quarterly and pay the applicable tonnage fees quarterly, on or before the tenth day of October, January, April, and July of each year. The report and payment shall cover the tonnage of liming materials, etc., sold during the preceding quarter. The report shall be on forms furnished by the Commissioner. If the report is not filed and the tonnage fees paid by the last day of the month in which it is due, or if the report be false, the amount due shall bear a penalty of ten percent (10%) which shall be added to the tonnage fees due. If the report is not filed and the tonnage fees paid within 60 days of the date due, or if the report or tonnage be false, the Commissioner may revoke the permit and cancel the registration. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.9. Report of tonnage.

(a) Within 30 days following the expiration of registration each registrant shall submit on a form furnished or approved by the Commissioner an annual statement, setting forth by counties, the number of net tons of each agricultural liming material and landplaster sold by him for use in the State during the previous 12 month period.

(b) The Commissioner shall publish and distribute annually, to each agricultural liming material and landplaster registrant and other interested persons a composite report showing the tons of agricultural liming material and landplaster sold in each county of the State. This report shall in no way divulge the operation of any registrant. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.10. Inspection, sampling, analysis.

(a) It shall be the duty of the Commissioner to sample, inspect, make analysis of, and test agricultural liming materials and landplaster distributed within this State as he may deem necessary to determine if such materials are in compliance with the provisions of this Article. The Commissioner is authorized to enter upon any public or private premises or carriers during regular business hours in order to have access to agricultural liming material and landplaster subject to the provisions of this Article, and regulations pertaining thereto, and to the records relating to their distribution.

(b) The methods of analysis and sampling shall be those approved by the State Chemist, and shall be guided by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists procedures.

(c) The results of official analysis of agricultural liming materials and portions of official samples may be distributed to the registrant by the Commissioner at least annually if requested. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.11. Deficiencies: refunds to consumer.

Should any of the agricultural liming and landplaster materials defined in this Article be found to be deficient in the components claimed by the manufacturer or registrant thereof, said manufacturer or registrant, upon official notification to [of] such deficiency by the Commissioner of Agriculture, shall, within 90 days, make refunds to the consumers of the deficient materials as follows:

In case of "agricultural liming material" if the deficiency is five percent (5%) of the guarantee or more, there shall be refunded an amount equal to three times the value of such deficiency and in case of "landplaster," for deficiencies

in excess of one percent (1%) of the guarantee, there shall be refunded an amount equal to three times the value of the deficiency. Values shall be based on the selling price of said materials. When said consumers cannot be found within the above specified time, refunds shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of Agriculture, where said refund shall be held for payment to the proper consumer upon order of the Commissioner. If the consumer to whom the refund is due cannot be found within a period of one year, such refund shall revert to the Department of Agriculture for expenditure by the Commissioner in promoting the agricultural programs of the State. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.12. "Stop sale" orders.

The Commissioner may issue and enforce a written or printed "stop sale, use, or removal" order to the owner or custodian of any lot of agricultural liming material or landplaster at a designated place when the Commissioner finds said material is being offered or exposed for sale in violation of any of the provisions of this Article until the law has been complied with and said violation has been otherwise legally disposed of by written authority. The Commissioner shall release the agricultural liming materials or landplaster so withdrawn, when the requirements of the provisions of this Article have been complied with and all costs and expense incurred in connection with the withdrawal have been paid. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.13. Appeals from assessments and orders of Commissioner.

Nothing in this Article shall prevent any person from appealing to a court of competent jurisdiction from any assessment of penalty or other final order or ruling of the Commissioner or Board of Agriculture. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.14. Penalties for violations of this Article.

Any person convicted of violating any provision of this Article or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in the discretion of the court. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as requiring the Commissioner or his authorized agent to report for prosecution or for the institution of seizure proceedings as a result of minor violations of the Article when he believes that the public interest will best be served by a suitable written warning. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.15. Declaration of policy.

The General Assembly hereby finds and declares that it is in the public interest that the State regulate the activities of those persons engaged in the business of preparing, or manufacturing agricultural liming material and landplaster in order to insure the manufacturer, distributor, and consumer of the correct quantity and quality of all said materials sold or offered for sale in this State. It shall therefore be the policy of this State to regulate the activities of those persons engaged in the business of preparing or manufacturing agricultural liming material and landplaster. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.16. Authority of Board of Agriculture to make rules and regulations.

Because legislation with regard to agricultural liming material and landplaster sold or offered for sale in this State must be adopted (adapted) to complex conditions and standards involving numerous details with which the General Assembly cannot deal directly and in order to effectuate the purposes and policies of the Article, and in order to insure the manufacturer, distributor, and consumer of the correct quality and quantity of all agricultural liming material and landplaster sold or offered for sale in this State, the Board of Agriculture shall have the authority to make rules and regulations with respect to:

- (1) Defining a standard agricultural liming material in terms of neutralizing equivalents.
- (2) Fineness of agricultural liming material.
- (3) Form and order of labeling.
- (4) Monetary penalties for deficiencies from guarantee.
- (5) Monetary penalties for materials that do not meet screen guarantee. (1979, c. 590.)

§ 106-92.17. Lime and fertilizer mixtures.

The provisions of this Article shall apply to mixtures of agricultural liming material and fertilizer, except as follows:

- (1) Such mixtures shall meet the labeling requirements of G.S. 106-92.5(a) in addition to providing information including, but not limited to, a guaranteed analysis of the fertilizer element or plant nutrient;
- (2) The tonnage fee for such mixtures under G.S. 106-92.8 shall be twenty-five cents (25¢) per ton; and,
- (3) The Board of Agriculture shall establish the allowable deficiency percentage and refund rate for such mixtures under G.S. 106-92.11. (1981, c. 449, s. 1.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 449, s. 3 makes this section effective July 1, 1981.

ARTICLE 12.

Food, Drugs and Cosmetics.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-134.1. Prescriptions required; label requirements; removal of certain drugs from requirements of this section.

(a) A drug intended for use by man which:

- (1) Is a habit-forming drug to which G.S. 106-134(4) applies; or
- (2) Because of its toxicity or other potentiality for harmful effect, or the method of its use, or the collateral measures necessary to its use, is not safe for use except under the supervision of a practitioner licensed by

- law to administer such drug in the course of his normal practice; or
- (3) Is limited by an approved application under section 505 of the federal act to use under the professional supervision of a practitioner licensed by law to administer such drug; or
- (4) Is a drug the label of which bears the statement "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription," shall be dispensed only
- a. Upon a written prescription of a practitioner licensed by law to administer such drug, or authorized to issue orders pursuant to G.S. 90-87(23)(a), provided that the written prescription must bear the printed or stamped name, address, telephone number and DEA number of the prescriber in addition to his legal signature, or
 - b. Upon an oral prescription of such practitioner which is reduced promptly to writing and filed by the pharmacist, or
 - c. By refilling any such written or oral prescription if such refilling is authorized by the prescriber either in the original prescription or by oral order which is reduced promptly to writing and filed by the pharmacist. If any prescription for such drug does not indicate the times it may be refilled, if any, such prescription may not be refilled unless the pharmacist is subsequently authorized to do so by the practitioner.

The act of dispensing a drug contrary to the provisions of this subdivision shall be deemed to be an act which results in a drug being misbranded while held for sale.

(b) Any drug dispensed by filling or refilling a written or oral prescription of a practitioner licensed by law to administer such drug shall be exempt from the requirements of G.S. 106-134, except subsections (1), (9)b and c, (13) and (14), and the packaging requirements of subsections (7) and (8), if the drug bears an affixed label containing the name of the patient, the name and address of the pharmacy, the phrase "Filled by" or "Dispensed by" with the name of the practitioner who dispenses the prescription appearing in the blank, the serial number and date of the prescription or of its filling, the name of the prescriber, the directions for use, and unless otherwise directed by the prescriber of such drug, the name and strength of such drug. This exemption shall not apply to any drugs dispensed in the course of the conduct of a business of dispensing drugs pursuant to diagnosis by mail, or to a drug dispensed in violation of subsection (a) of this section.

Any tranquilizer or sedative dispensed by filling or refilling a written or oral prescription of a practitioner licensed by law to administer such drug shall be labelled by the pharmacist, if the prescriber so directs on the prescription, with a warning that: "The consumption of alcoholic beverages while on this medication can be harmful to your health."

(c) The Board may, by regulation, remove drugs subject to G.S. 106-134(4) and G.S. 106-135 from the requirements of subsection (a) of this section when such requirements are not necessary for the protection of the public health. Drugs removed from the prescription requirements of the federal act by regulations issued thereunder shall also, by regulations issued by the Board, be removed from the requirement of subsection (a).

(d) A drug which is subject to subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to be misbranded if at any time prior to dispensing its label fails to bear the statement "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription." A drug to which subsection (a) of this section does not apply shall be deemed to be misbranded if at any time prior to dispensing its label bears the caution statement quoted in the preceding sentence.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve any person from any requirement prescribed by or under authority of law with respect to drugs now included or which may hereafter be included within the classification of

"controlled substances" as this term is defined in applicable federal and State controlled substance acts. (1975, c. 614, s. 29; 1977, c. 421; 1979, c. 626; 1981, c. 75, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment, effective January 1, 1980, added the second paragraph of subsection (b).

The 1981 amendment inserted "or authorized to issue orders pursuant to G.S. 90-87(23)(a)" in paragraph a of subdivision (a)(4).

§ 106-141.1. Inspections of donated food.

(a) The Department of Agriculture is authorized to inspect for compliance with the provisions of Article 12 of Chapter 106 of the North Carolina General Statutes, food items donated for use or distribution by nonprofit organizations or nonprofit corporations, and may establish procedures for the handling of the food items, including reporting procedures concerning the donation of food.

(b) The Department of Agriculture may apply to Superior Court for injunctive relief restraining the violation of this section.

(c) Nothing in this section shall limit the duties or responsibilities of the Commission for Health Services or the local boards of health. (1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1188, s. 3.)

ARTICLE 14.

State Inspection of Slaughterhouses.

§§ 106-159 to 106-168: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 284.

ARTICLE 14A.

Licensing and Regulation of Rendering Plants and Rendering Operations.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 15A.

Meat Grading Law.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 17.

*Marketing and Branding Farm Products.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-189.1. Apples marked as to grade; penalty.

Legal Periodicals. — For a survey of 1977 constitutional law, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 943 (1978).

ARTICLE 19.

Trademark for Standardized Farm Products.

§§ 106-202.1 to 106-202.5: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 19A.

*Records of Sales of Farm Products.***§ 106-202.6. Dated sales confirmation slips; inapplicable to consumers.**

(a) In every sales transaction of farm or horticultural crops, or animal products, the buyer, broker, or authorized agent shall give to the seller a sales confirmation slip bearing the date of the sales transaction.

(b) This section shall not apply if the buyer is a natural person and/or the farm or horticultural crops, or animal products are purchased primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose. (1979, c. 363.)

§§ 106-202.7 to 106-202.11: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 19B.

*Plant Protection and Conservation Act.***§ 106-202.12. Definitions.**

As used in this Article, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Board" means the North Carolina Plant Conservation Board as provided in this Article.
- (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- (3) "Conserve" and "conservation" mean to use, and the use of, all methods and procedures for the purposes of increasing the number of individuals of resident species of plants up to adequate levels to assure their continuity in their ecosystems. These methods and procedures include all activities associated with scientific resource conservation such as

research, census, law enforcement, habitat protection, acquisition and maintenance, propagation, and transplantation into unoccupied parts of historic range. With respect to endangered and threatened species, the terms mean to use, and the use of, methods and procedures to bring any endangered or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided for the species are no longer necessary.

- (4) "Endangered species" means any species or higher taxon of plant whose continued existence as a viable component of the State's flora is determined to be in jeopardy by the Board; also, any species of plant determined to be an "endangered species" pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.
- (5) "Endangered Species Act" means the Endangered Species Act of 1973, Public Law 93-205 (87 Stat. 884), as it may be subsequently amended.
- (6) "Exotic species" means a species or higher taxon of plant not native or naturalized in North Carolina but appearing in the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species List or in the appendices to the International Treaty on Endangered and Threatened Species.
- (7) "Plant" means any member of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots and other parts or their propagules.
- (8) "Protected plant" means a species or higher taxon of plant adopted by the Board to protect, conserve, and/or enhance the plant species and includes those the Board has designated as endangered, threatened, or of special concern.
- (9) "Resident plant or resident species" means a native species or higher taxon of plant growing in North Carolina.
- (10) "Scientific committee" means the North Carolina Plant Conservation Scientific Committee.
- (11) "Special concern species" means any species of plant in North Carolina which requires monitoring but which may be collected and sold under regulations adopted under the provisions of this Article.
- (12) "Threatened species" means any resident species of plant which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, or one that is designated as threatened by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.13. Declaration of policy.

The General Assembly finds that the recreational needs of the people, the interests of science, and the economy of the State require that threatened and endangered species of plants and species of plants of special concern be protected and conserved, that their numbers should be enhanced and that propagative techniques be developed for them; however, nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit the rights of a property owner, without his consent, in the management of his lands for agriculture, forestry, development or any other lawful purpose. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

§ 106-202.14. Creation of Board; membership; terms; chairman; quorum; board actions; compensation.

(a) The North Carolina Plant Conservation Board is created within the Department of Agriculture.

(b) The Board shall consist of seven members who are residents of North Carolina, one of whom represents each of the following:

- (1) The North Carolina Botanical Garden of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill;
- (2) The botanical, scientific community in North Carolina;
- (3) The Division of Forest Resources, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development;
- (4) A North Carolina citizens conservation organization;
- (5) The commercial plant production industry in North Carolina;
- (6) The Department of Agriculture;
- (7) The North Carolina public at large.

The Governor shall appoint the first four members enumerated above; the Commissioner shall appoint the remaining three members.

(c) Initial appointments to the Board shall be made by October 1, 1979. Of the terms of initial appointees, the representatives of the North Carolina Botanical Garden of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the commercial plant production industry in North Carolina, and a North Carolina citizens conservation organization shall serve two-year terms; all other members shall serve four-year terms. All subsequent terms shall be for four-year terms.

(d) All members shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board prior to the expiration of the term shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Commissioner may at any time remove any member from the Board for cause. Each appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Board shall be of a person having the proper credentials for that vacancy and appointed by the proper appointing agency.

(e) The Board shall select its chairman from its own membership to serve for a term of two years. The chairman shall have a full vote. Any vacancy occurring in the chairmanship shall be filled by the Board for the remainder of the term. The Board may select other officers as it deems necessary.

(f) Any action of the Board shall require at least four concurring votes.

(g) Members of the Board who are not State employees shall receive per diem, subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 138-5; members who are State employees shall receive the subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 138-6; and members who are also members of the General Assembly shall receive subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 120-3.1. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.15. Powers and duties of the Board.

The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To adopt and publish by July 1, 1980, an endangered species list, a threatened species list and a list of species of special concern, as provided for in G.S. 106-202.16, identifying each entry by the common name and scientific name and cross-referencing by family, genus, and

species number as found in the current edition of "The Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas," or if not found in this edition, as identified by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists;

- (2) To reconsider and revise the lists from time to time in response to public proposals and as the Board deems necessary;
- (3) To conserve and to regulate the collection and shipment of those plant species or higher taxa that are of such similarity to endangered and threatened species that they cannot be easily or readily distinguished from an endangered or threatened species;
- (4) To regulate within the State any exotic species, in the same manner as a resident species if the exotic species is on the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species List or it is listed in the Appendices to the International Treaty to Conserve Endangered and Threatened Species;
- (5) To determine that certain plant species growing in North Carolina, whether or not they are on the endangered or threatened species list, are of special concern and to limit, regulate or forbid sale or collection of these plants;
- (6) To conduct investigations to determine whether a plant should be on the protected plant lists and the requirements for survival of resident species of plants;
- (7) To adopt regulations to protect, conserve and enhance resident and exotic species of plants on the lists, or to otherwise affect the intent of this Article;
- (8) To develop, establish and coordinate conservation programs for endangered species and threatened species of plants, consistent with the policies of the Endangered Species Act, including the acquisition of rights to land or aquatic habitats;
- (9) To enter into and administer cooperative agreements through the Commissioner of Agriculture, in concert with the North Carolina Botanical Garden and other agencies, with the U. S. Department of Interior or other federal, State or private organizations concerning endangered and threatened species of plants and their conservation and management;
- (10) To cooperate or enter into formal agreements with any agency of any other state or of the federal government for the purpose of enforcing any of the provisions of this Article;
- (11) Through the Commissioner, to receive funds, donations, grants or other moneys, issue grants, enter contracts, employ personnel and purchase supplies and materials necessary to fulfill its duties;
- (12) To promulgate regulations under which the Department of Agriculture may issue permits to licensed nurserymen, commercial growers, scientific supply houses and botanical gardens for the sale or distribution of plants on the protected list provided that the plants are nursery propagated and grown horticulturally from seeds or by vegetative propagation of cuttings, meristems or other similar materials and that the plants bear the grower's permit number. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.16. Criteria and procedures for placing plants on protected plant lists.

(a) All native or resident plants which are on the current federal lists of endangered or threatened plants pursuant to the Endangered Species Act have the same status on the North Carolina Protected Plants lists.

(b) The Board, the Scientific Committee, or any resident of North Carolina may propose to the Department of Agriculture that a plant be added to or removed from a protected plant list.

(c) If the Board, with the advice of the Scientific Committee, finds that there is any substance to the proposal, it shall publish notice of the proposal in a Department of Agriculture news release.

(d) The Board shall collect relevant scientific and economic data, concerning any substantial proposal, necessary to determine:

- (1) Whether or not any other State or federal agency or private entity is taking steps to protect the plant under consideration;
- (2) The present or threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of its habitat;
- (3) Over-utilization for commercial, scientific, educational or recreational purposes;
- (4) Critical depletion from disease or predation;
- (5) The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
- (6) Other natural or man-made factors affecting its continued existence in North Carolina.

The Board, with the advice of the Scientific Committee, shall tentatively determine what action is warranted with regard to each proposal. Notice of the determination shall be given in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, G.S. 150A-1 et seq., and in a Department of Agriculture news release and by mail to all persons who have made an annual request to receive notification.

(e) The Board shall hold at least one public hearing on each substantive proposal, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, G.S. 150A-1 et seq.

(f) If the Board determines that an emergency situation exists involving the continued existence of a plant species or higher taxon as a viable component of the State's wild flora it may add that species or taxon to the lists following emergency procedures outlined in the Administrative Procedures Act, G.S. 150A-1 et seq. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.17. Creation of committee; membership; terms; chairman; meetings; committee action; quorum; compensation.

(a) The North Carolina Plant Conservation Scientific Committee is created within the Department of Agriculture.

(b) The Scientific Committee shall consist of the Directors of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Herbarium, the North Carolina State University Herbarium, the North Carolina Botanical Garden of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the North Carolina Museum of Natural History and the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development or their designees, a rep-

representative of the North Carolina Association of Nurserymen, Inc., appointed by the Commissioner, and a representative of the Garden Club of North Carolina, Incorporated, the North Carolina Chapter of the Nature Conservancy or the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation Society, Inc., appointed by the Commissioner. Members shall serve for three-year terms and may succeed themselves.

(c) The Board shall select a chairman of the Scientific Committee from the Scientific Committee's membership to serve for three years.

(d) The Scientific Committee may hold its meetings at the North Carolina Botanical Garden of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

(e) Any action of the Scientific Committee shall require at least four concurring votes.

(f) Members of the Scientific Committee who are not State employees may receive per diem, subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 138-5 if they so request; members who are State employees may receive the subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 138-6 if they so request; and members who are also members of the General Assembly may receive subsistence and travel allowances authorized by G.S. 120-3.1 if they so request. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.18. Powers and duties of the Scientific Committee.

The Scientific Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To gather and provide information and data and advise the Board with respect to all aspects of the biology and ecology of endangered and threatened plant species;
- (2) To develop and present to the Board management and conservation practices for preserving endangered or threatened plant species;
- (3) To recommend habitat areas for acquisition to the extent that funds are available or expected;
- (4) To investigate and make recommendations to the Board as to the status of endangered, threatened plant species, or species of special concern;
- (5) To make recommendations to the Board concerning regulation of the collection and shipment of endangered or threatened plant species within North Carolina;
- (6) To review and comment on botanical aspects of environmental impact statements prepared by North Carolina agencies or other agencies as appropriate; and
- (7) To advise the Board on matters submitted to the Scientific Committee by the Board or the Commissioner which involve technical questions and the development of pertinent rules and regulations, and make any recommendations as deemed by the Scientific Committee to be worthy of the Board's consideration. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-202.19. Unlawful acts; penalties; enforcement.

(a) It is unlawful:

- (1) To uproot, dig, take or otherwise disturb or remove for any purpose from the lands of another, any plant on a protected plant list without a written permit from the owner which is dated and valid for no more than 180 days and which indicates the species or higher taxon of plants for which permission is granted; except that the incidental disturbance of protected plants during agricultural, forestry or development operations is not illegal so long as the plants are not collected for sale or commercial use;
- (2) To sell, barter, trade, exchange, export, offer for sale, barter, trade, exchange or export or give away for any purpose including advertising or other promotional purpose any plant on a protected plant list, except as authorized according to the rules and regulations of the Board; including those promulgated pursuant to G.S. 106-202.15(1);
- (3) To perform any act specifically prohibited by the rules and regulations of the Board promulgated pursuant to its authority under G.S. 106-202.15.

The illegal movement or distribution of each plant, pursuant to this subsection shall constitute a separate violation.

Each person convicted of violating the provisions of this Article, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), upon the first conviction and not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) upon a subsequent conviction.

(b) The Commissioner or any employee of the Department of Agriculture designated by the Commissioner to enforce the provisions of this Article, may enter any place within the State at all reasonable times where plant materials are being grown, transported or offered for sale and require the presentation for inspection of all pertinent papers and records relative to the provisions of this Article, after giving notice in writing to the owner or custodian of the premises to be entered. If he refuses to consent to the entry, the Commissioner may apply to any district court judge and the judge may order, without notice, that the owner or custodian of the place permit the Commissioner to enter the place for the purposes herein stated and failure by any person to obey the order may be punished as for contempt.

(c) The Commissioner of Agriculture is authorized to apply to the superior court for, and the court shall have jurisdiction upon hearing and, for cause shown, to grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating any provision of G.S. 106-202.19(a), regardless of whether there exists an adequate remedy at law. (1979, c. 964, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

ARTICLE 28A.

Regulation of Milk Brought into North Carolina from Other States.

§§ 106-266.1 to 106-266.5: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 157, s. 1.

ARTICLE 28B.

*Regulation of Production, Distribution, etc., of Milk and Cream.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-266.8. Powers of Commission.

Legal Periodicals. — For an article on antitrust and unfair trade practice law in North

Carolina, with federal law compared, see 50 N.C.L. Rev. 199 (1972).

CASE NOTES

Constitutionality. — That part of subdivision (3) conferring upon the commission power to require a distributor of milk, reconstituted from milk powder produced in another state, to make "equalization" payments for the benefit of North Carolina milk pro-

ducers, with whom it has no dealings, violates Art. I, § 19, of the Constitution of North Carolina, and the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution. In re Arcadia Dairy Farms, Inc., 43 N.C. App. 459, 259 S.E.2d 368 (1979), appeal dismissed, — N.C. —, 265 S.E.2d 393 (1980).

§ 106-266.19. Sale below cost to injure or destroy competition prohibited.

Legal Periodicals. — For an article on antitrust and unfair trade practice law in North

Carolina, with federal law compared, see 50 N.C.L. Rev. 199 (1972).

ARTICLE 29.

*Inspection, Grading and Testing Milk and Dairy Products.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-267. Inspection, grading and testing dairy products; authority of State Board of Agriculture.

The State Board of Agriculture shall have full power to make and promulgate rules and regulations for the Department of Agriculture in its inspection and control of the purchase and sale of milk and other dairy products in North Carolina; to make and establish definitions, not inconsistent with the laws pertaining thereto; to qualify and determine the grade and contents of milk and of other dairy products sold in this State; to regulate the manner of testing the same and the handling, treatment and sale of milk and dairy products, to require processors of fortified milk and milk products to pay all costs for assays of vitamin-fortified products, to provide for the issuance of permits upon compliance with this Article and the rules and regulations promulgated

thereunder and to promulgate such other rules and regulations not inconsistent with the law as may be necessary in connection with the authority hereby given to the Commissioner of Agriculture on this subject. (1933, c. 550, ss. 1-3; 1951, c. 1121, s. 1; 1981, c. 338, c. 495, s. 5.)

Effect of Amendments. — The first 1981 amendment inserted "to provide for the issuance of permits upon compliance with this Article and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder" near the end of the section.

The second 1981 amendment inserted "to require processors of fortified milk and milk products to pay all costs for assays of vitamin-fortified products," near the end of the section.

ARTICLE 31.

North Carolina Seed Law.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-277.9. Prohibitions.

Legal Periodicals. — For note on strict liability for breach of warranty, see 50 N.C.L. Rev. 697 (1972).

§ 106-277.15. Rules, regulations and standards.

The Commissioner of Agriculture, jointly with the Board of Agriculture, after public hearing immediately following 10 days' public notice may adopt such rules, regulations and standards which they may find to be advisable or necessary to carry out and enforce the purposes and provisions of this Article, which shall have the force and effect of law. The Commissioner and Board of Agriculture shall adopt rules, regulations and standards as follows:

- (1) Prescribing the methods of sampling, inspecting, analyzing, testing and examining agricultural and vegetable seed, and determining the tolerance to be followed in the administration of this Article.
- (2) Declaring a list of prohibited and restricted noxious weeds, conforming with the definitions stated in this Article, and to add to or subtract therefrom, from time to time, after a public hearing following due public notice.
- (3) Declaring the maximum percentage of total weed seed content permitted in agricultural seed.
- (4) Declaring the maximum number of "restricted" noxious-weed seeds per pound of agricultural seed permitted to be sold, offered or exposed for sale.
- (5) Declaring the minimum percentage of germination permitted for sale as "Agricultural Seeds."
- (6) Declaring germination standards for vegetable seeds.
- (7) Prescribing the form and use of tags or stamps to be used in labeling seed.
- (8) Prescribing such other rules and regulations as may be necessary to secure the efficient enforcement of this Article.
- (9) Establishing fees and charges for agricultural and vegetable seed testing and analysis. (1941, c. 114, s. 6; 1943, c. 203, s. 4; 1945, c. 828;

1949, c. 725; 1953, c. 856, s. 5; 1957, c. 263, s. 3; 1963, c. 1182; 1981, c. 495, s. 6.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added subdivision (9).

ARTICLE 31C.

North Carolina Commercial Feed Law of 1973.

§ 106-284.30. Title.

Cross References. — As to testing of animal feeds by Feed Advisory Service in Department of Agriculture, see § 106-21.1.

ARTICLE 34.

Animal Diseases.

Part 1. Quarantine and Miscellaneous Provisions.

§ 106-307.1. Serums, vaccines, etc., for control of animal diseases.

Cross References. — For North Carolina Biologics Law of 1981, see §§ 106-707 through 106-714.

Part 7. Rabies.

§ 106-371. Canvass of dogs not wearing metal tags; notice to owners to have dogs vaccinated; killing of ownerless dogs.

Local Modification. — Gaston: 1979, c. 433.

Part 8. Brucellosis (Bang's Disease).

§ 106-396. Authority to promulgate and enforce rules and regulations.

The Commissioner of Agriculture, by and with the consent of the State Board of Agriculture, shall have full power to promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of G.S. 106-388 to 106-398, and for the effective control and eradication of brucellosis, including the establishment of fees and charges for the collection of blood samples. (1937, c. 175, s. 10; 1967, c. 511; 1981, c. 495, s. 8.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added "including the establishment of fees and charges for the collection of blood samples" at the end of the section.

Part 10. Feeding Garbage to Swine.

Repeal of Part. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Part effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Part, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-405.2. Permit for feeding garbage to swine.

(a) No person shall feed garbage to swine without first securing a permit therefor from the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture or his authorized agent. Such permits shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be renewable on the date of expiration.

(b) No permit shall be issued or renewed for garbage feeding under this Part in any county or other subdivision in which local regulations to prohibit garbage feeding are in effect.

(c) This Part shall not apply to any individual who feeds only his own household garbage to swine: Provided, that any such swine sold or disposed of shall be sold or disposed of in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Agriculture.

(d) This Part shall not apply to any person who holds a valid federal permit under the Swine Health Protection Act, P.L. 96-468. (1953, c. 720, s. 2; 1971, c. 566, s. 1; 1981, c. 392.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added subsection (d).

Part 11. Equine Infectious Anemia.

§ 106-405.17. Authority to promulgate and enforce rules and regulations.

The State Board of Agriculture shall have full power to promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the control and eradication of equine infectious anemia. This authority shall include, but not be limited to, the power to make regulations requiring the testing of horses, ponies, mules and asses for equine infectious anemia prior to sale, exhibition or assembly at public stables or other public places, and authority to require the owner, operator or person in charge of shows, sales, public stables and other public places to require proof of freedom from equine infectious anemia before any animal is permitted to remain on the premises. The Board shall also have the authority to set fees for such tests as necessary to recover the costs to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. (1973, c. 1198, s. 3; 1981, c. 495, s. 7.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added the third sentence.

ARTICLE 35.

*Public Livestock Markets.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-407. Bonds required of operators; exemption of certain market operations.

CASE NOTES

Applied in *Development Assocs. v. Wake County Bd. of Adjustment*, 48 N.C. App. 541, 269 S.E.2d 700 (1980).

§ 106-407.1. North Carolina Public Livestock Market Advisory Board created; appointment; membership; duties.

There is hereby created the North Carolina Public Livestock Market Advisory Board composed of eight persons, all of whom shall be residents of North Carolina, who shall be appointed and the chairman designated by the Commissioner of Agriculture on or before August 1, 1967. Two members of said Board shall be livestock producers, two shall be licensed livestock market operators, one shall be a meat packer, one shall be the State Veterinarian, one shall be a duly licensed and practicing veterinarian and one shall be an employee of the markets division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. On the initial Board, two members shall be appointed for terms of one year, two members for terms of two years, two members for terms of three years, and two members for terms of four years. Thereafter, all members shall serve four-year terms. Any vacancy on the Board caused by death, resignation, or otherwise shall be filled by the Commissioner of Agriculture for the expiration of the term. The terms of all members of the initial and subsequent boards shall expire on June 30 of the year in which their terms expire.

It shall be the duty of the members of the Board to attend all hearings on applications for licenses to operate public livestock markets. The Board may meet once each year, or more often if directed by the Commissioner, in Raleigh or such other place in North Carolina as directed by the Commissioner for the purpose of (i) discussing problems of the livestock market industry, (ii) proposing changes in the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture relative to public livestock markets, and (iii) making such other recommendations to the Commissioner and the Board of Agriculture as it deems in the best interest of the livestock industry of North Carolina.

Members of the Board, except members who are employees of the State, shall receive as compensation, subsistence and travel allowances, such sums as by law are provided for other commissions and boards. Compensation, subsistence and travel allowances authorized for the Board members shall be paid from fees collected pursuant to this Article. (1967, c. 894, s. 3; 1977, c. 132, s. 4; 1981, c. 337.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "The Board may meet once each year" for "It shall also be the duty of the

members of the Board to meet at least once each year at the beginning of the second sentence of the second paragraph."

§ 106-411. Regulation of use of livestock removed from market; swine shipped out of State.

CASE NOTES

Applied in *Development Assocs. v. Wake County Bd. of Adjustment*, 48 N.C. App. 541, 269 S.E.2d 700 (1980).

ARTICLE 35B.

Livestock Dealer Licensing Act.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-418.8. Definitions.

CASE NOTES

Applied in *Development Assocs. v. Wake County Bd. of Adjustment*, 48 N.C. App. 541, 269 S.E.2d 700 (1980).

ARTICLE 44.

Unfair Practices by Handlers of Fruits and Vegetables.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-496. Protection against unfair trade practices.

Legal Periodicals. — For an article on antitrust and unfair trade practice law in North

Carolina, with federal law compared, see 50 N.C.L. Rev. 199 (1972).

ARTICLE 45.

Agricultural Societies and Fairs.

Part 1. State Fair.

§ 106-503. Board of Agriculture to operate fair.

The State fair and other projects provided for in G.S. 106-502, shall be managed, operated and conducted by the Board of Agriculture established in G.S. 106-502. To that end, said Board of Agriculture shall, at its first meeting after the ratification of this section, take over said State fair, together with all the lands, buildings, machinery, etc., located thereon, now belonging to said State fair and shall operate said State fair and other projects with all the authority and power conferred upon the former board of directors, and it shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary for the holding and conducting of said fair and other projects, and/or lease said fair properties so as to provide a State fair.

The Board of Agriculture may adopt regulations establishing fees or charges for admission to the State Fairgrounds and for services provided incidental to the use of the State Fairgrounds. (1931, c. 360, s. 3; 1959, c. 1186, s. 2; 1981, c. 495, s. 4.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added the second paragraph.

ARTICLE 49.

*Poultry; Hatcheries; Chick Dealers.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 49A.

Voluntary Inspection of Poultry.

§§ 106-549.1 to 106-549.14: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 284.

ARTICLE 49B.

*Meat Inspection Requirements; Adulteration and Misbranding.***§ 106-549.17. Inspection of animals before slaughter; humane methods of slaughtering.**

(a) For the purpose of preventing the use in intrastate commerce, as herein-after provided, of meat and meat food products which are adulterated, the Commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an examination and inspection of all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines before they shall be allowed to enter into any slaughtering, packing, meat-canning, rendering, or similar establishment in this State in

which slaughtering and preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are conducted for intrastate commerce; and all cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines found on such inspection to show symptoms of disease shall be set apart and slaughtered separately from all other cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines, and when so slaughtered, the carcasses of said cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines shall be subject to a careful examination and inspection, all as provided by the rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Board as herein provided for.

(b) For the purpose of preventing the inhumane slaughtering of livestock, the Commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an examination and inspection of the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, and other equines are slaughtered and handled in connection with slaughter in the slaughtering establishments inspected under this law. The Commissioner may refuse to provide inspection to a new slaughtering establishment or may cause inspection to be temporarily suspended at a slaughtering establishment if the Commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines have been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter at such establishment by any method not in accordance with subsection (c) of this section until the establishment furnishes assurances satisfactory to the Commissioner that all slaughtering and handling in connection with slaughter of livestock shall be in accordance with such a method.

(c) Either of the following two methods of slaughtering of livestock and handling of livestock in connection with slaughter are found to be humane:

- (1) In the case of cattle, calves, horses, mules, sheep, swine, and other livestock, all animals are rendered insensible to pain by a single blow or gunshot or an electrical, chemical, or other means that is rapid and effective, before being shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut; or
- (2) By slaughtering in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Jewish faith or any other religious faith that prescribes a method of slaughter whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument and handling in connection with such slaughtering. (1969, c. 893, s. 3; 1981, c. 376, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective July 1, 1981, designated the former section as subsection (a) and added subsections (b) and (c).

§ 106-549.23. Prohibited slaughter, sale and transportation.

No person, firm, or corporation shall, with respect to any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines, or any carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat or meat food products of any such animals:

- (1) Slaughter any of these animals or prepare any of these articles which are capable of use as human food, at any establishment preparing any such articles for intrastate commerce except in compliance with the requirements of this and the subsequent Article;
- (2) Slaughter, or handle in connection with slaughter, any such animals in any manner not in accordance with G.S. 106-549.17(c) of this Article;
- (3) Sell, transport, offer for sale or transportation, or receive for transportation, in intrastate commerce:
 - a. Any of these articles which (i) are capable of use as human food and (ii) are adulterated or misbranded at the time of sale, transportation, offer for sale or transportation, or receipt for transportation; or

b. Any articles required to be inspected under this Article unless they have been so inspected and passed; or

- (4) Do, with respect to any of these articles which are capable of use as human food, any act while they are being transported in intrastate commerce or held for sale after such transportation, which is intended to cause or has the effect of causing the articles to be adulterated or misbranded. (1969, c. 893, s. 9; 1981, c. 376, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective July 1, 1981, added present subdivision (2), designated former subdivisions (2)a and b as present subdivision (3), and designated former subdivision (2)c, without its introductory language, as present subdivision (4). The amendment substituted "any of these" for "any such" in subdivisions (1), (3)a, and (4);

in subdivision (1), inserted "any" preceding "such articles" and deleted a comma following "intrastate commerce"; in subdivision (3)a, deleted "such" preceding "sale, transportation"; and in subdivision (4), substituted "the articles to be adulterated" for "such articles to be adulterated."

ARTICLE 38.

Marketing Cotton and Other Agricultural Commodities.

§ 106-435. Fund for support of system; collection and investment.

CASE NOTES

Purpose of Fund. — The General Assembly, when by this section it created the State Indemnifying and Guaranty Fund to safeguard the State warehouse system and to make its receipts acceptable as collateral, did not intend that it should encourage individuals or financial institutions to engage in transactions from which they would otherwise have recoiled. On

the contrary, the fund was created to protect those parties to or purchasers of warehouse receipts who, acting in good faith and without reason to know that the goods described thereon are misdescribed or nonexistent, suffer loss through their acceptance or purchase of the receipt. *Branch Banking & Trust Co. v. Gill*, 293 N.C. 164, 237 S.E.2d 21 (1977).

ARTICLE 49F.

Biological Residues in Animals.

§§ 106-549.89 to 106-549.93: Reserved for future recodification purposes.

ARTICLE 49G.

Production and Sale of Pen-Raised Quail.

§ 106-549.94. Regulation of pen-raised quail by Department of Agriculture; certain authority of North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission not affected.

(a) The North Carolina Department of Agriculture is given exclusive authority to regulate the production and sale of pen-raised quail for food

purposes. The Board of Agriculture shall promulgate rules and regulations for the production and sale of pen-raised quail for food purposes in such a manner as to provide for close supervision of any person, firm, or corporation producing and selling pen-raised quail for food purposes.

(b) The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall retain its authority to regulate the possession and transportation of live pen-raised quail. (1971, c. 515, ss. 1-4; c. 1114; 1973, c. 1262, s. 18; 1977, c. 905, ss. 1-2; 1979, c. 830, s. 15.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1979, c. 830, s. 17, makes this section effective July 1, 1980.

ARTICLE 50.

Promotion of Use and Sale of Agricultural Products.

§ 106-550. Policy as to promotion of use of, and markets for, farm products; tobacco excluded.

Legal Periodicals. — For note questioning unconstitutional delegation of legislative the validity of this article as being an power, see 8 N.C. Cent. L.J. 300 (1977).

§ 106-557. Notice of referendum; statement of amount, basis and purpose of assessment; maximum assessment.

With respect to any referendum conducted under the provisions of this Article, the duly certified commission, council, board or other agency shall, before calling and announcing such referendum, fix, determine and publicly announce at least 30 days before the date determined upon for such referendum, the date, hours and polling places for voting in such referendum, the amount and basis of the assessment proposed to be collected, the means by which such assessment shall be collected if authorized by the growers, and the general purposes to which said amount so collected shall be applied; no annual assessment levied under the provisions of this Article shall exceed one half of one percent ($\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%) of the value of the year's production of such agricultural commodity grown by any farmer, producer or grower included in the group to which such referendum is submitted. Provided, that the assessment for the research and promotion programs of the American Dairy Association of North Carolina may be fixed on the volume of milk sold not to exceed one percent (1%) of the statewide blend price paid to all North Carolina producers during the previous calendar year for three and one-half percent (3.5%) milk as computed by the North Carolina Milk Commission. (1947, c. 1018, s. 8; 1967, c. 774, s. 1; c. 1268; 1981, c. 216, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted the language beginning "the volume of milk sold not to exceed one percent (1%)" for "volume not to exceed six cents (6¢) per hundredweight of milk sold" at the end of the second sentence.

§ 106-559.1. Basis of vote on milk product assessment.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, any milk product assessment referendum shall be conducted on the basis of one vote per base holder. (1981, c. 216, s. 2.)

§ 106-563.1. Supervision of referendum on milk product assessment.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, any milk product assessment referendum shall be conducted under the supervision of the County Extension Chairman in each county in which the referendum is held. (1981, c. 216, s. 3.)

§ 106-567.1. Refund of milk product assessments.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, on and after January 1, 1982, a milk producer shall be entitled to receive a monthly refund of assessments paid by him by making written demand in the first month of each calendar quarter upon the association receiving such assessment. (1981, c. 216, s. 4.)

ARTICLE 50A.***Promotion of Agricultural Research and Dissemination of Findings.*****§ 106-568.2. Policy as to referendum and assessment.**

It is further declared to be in the public interest and highly advantageous to the economic development of the State that farmers, producers, and growers of agricultural commodities using commercial feed and/or fertilizers or their ingredients be permitted by referendum held among themselves to levy upon themselves an assessment of ten cents (10¢) per ton on mixed fertilizers, commercial feed, and their ingredients (except lime and land plaster) to provide funds through the Agricultural Foundation to supplement the established program of agricultural research and dissemination of research facts. (1951, c. 827, s. 2; 1981, c. 181, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment substituted "ten cents (10¢) per ton" for "five cents (5¢) per ton" near the middle of the section.

§ 106-568.8. Collection and disposition of assessment; report of receipts and disbursements; audit.

In the event two thirds or more of the eligible farmers and producers participating in said referendum vote in favor of such assessment, then said assessment shall be collected for a period of six years under rules, regulations, and methods as provided for in this Article. The assessments shall be added to the wholesale purchase price of each ton of fertilizer, commercial feed, and/or their ingredients (except lime and land plaster) by the manufacturer of said fertilizer and feed. The assessment so collected shall be paid by the manufacturer into the hands of the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture on the same tonnage and at the same time and in the same manner as prescribed for the reporting of the inspection tax on commercial feeds and fertilizers as pre-

scribed by G.S. 106-50.6 and 106-99. The Commissioner shall then remit said ten cents (10¢) per ton for the total tonnage as reported by all manufacturers of commercial feeds, fertilizers, and their ingredients to the treasurer of the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc., who shall disburse such funds for the purposes herein enumerated and not inconsistent with provisions contained in the charter and bylaws of the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc. Signed copies of the receipts for such remittances made by the Commissioner to the treasurer of the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc., shall be furnished the Commissioner of Agriculture, the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, and the North Carolina State Grange. The treasurer of the North Carolina Agricultural Foundation, Inc., shall make an annual report at each annual meeting of the Foundation directors of total receipts and disbursements for the year and shall file a copy of said report with the Commissioner of Agriculture and shall make available a copy of said report for publication.

It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Agriculture to audit and check the remittances of ten cents (10¢) per ton by the manufacturer to the Commissioner in the same manner and at the same time as audits and checks are made of remittances of the inspection tax on commercial feeds and fertilizers.

Any commercial feed excluded from the payment of the inspection fee required by G.S. 106-284.40 shall nevertheless be subject to the assessment provided for by this Article and to quarterly tonnage reports to the Department of Agriculture as provided for in G.S. 106-284.40(c). (1951, c. 827, s. 8; 1967, c. 631, s. 1; 1975, c. 646; 1981, c. 181, s. 1.)

Editor's Note. — Sections 106-50.6 and 106-99, referred to at the end of the third sentence of the first paragraph, have been repealed.

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amend-

ment substituted "ten cents (10¢) per ton" for "five cents (5¢) per ton" in the fourth sentence of the first paragraph, and near the beginning of the second paragraph.

ARTICLE 50C.

Promotion of Sale and Use of Tobacco.

§ 106-568.34. Alternate method for levy of assessment.

At any time when it may be found by the Board of Directors of Tobacco Associates, that it is not reasonably feasible to base the authorization of an assessment or the making of an assessment or the collection of an assessment on a "per-acre" unit, then the Board of Directors of Tobacco Associates, by an affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of its members (which vote shall include the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the board members who were elected by North Carolina farm organizations), may use a "tobacco poundage" unit as the basis for the authorization or making or collecting an assessment. No alternate assessment for any year through 1979 shall exceed five cents (5¢) per 100 pounds of the effective farm marketing quota of a member; no alternate assessment for any year after 1979 shall exceed ten cents (10¢) per 100 pounds of the effective farm marketing quota of a member. The amount of any alternate assessment, based upon a "tobacco poundage" unit as permitted by the provisions of this section shall not be related to or limited by the amount of the assessment which could be authorized, made or collected if it were based upon a "per-acre" unit. (1973, c. 81; 1979, c. 474, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment substituted "the" for "such" before "board

members" near the middle of the first sentence, deleted "reasonably corresponding" before

"tobacco poundage" and substituted "the" for "such" before "authorization" near the end of the first sentence, deleted "provided, that no assessment shall exceed five cents (5¢) per 100

pounds of the effective farm marketing quota of a member" at the end of the first sentence, and added the second and third sentences.

§ 106-568.36. Maximum levy after 1979.

The maximum amount which may be authorized in any referendum held pursuant to the provisions of this Article during 1979 or thereafter, and the maximum amount which may be assessed, collected or levied for any year after 1979 by the Board of Directors of Tobacco Associates pursuant to the provisions of this Article, is two dollars (\$2.00) per acre per year on all flue-cured tobacco acreage in the State, or, under the alternate method for levy of assessment set out in G.S. 106-568.34, ten cents (10¢) per 100 pounds of the effective farm quota of a member. (1979, c. 474, s. 2.)

ARTICLE 51A.

North Carolina Antifreeze Law of 1975.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-579.6. Misbranding.

Failure to Label Properly Constitutes Misbranding and Deceptive Practice. — The failure to label drums of antifreeze properly is statutorily deemed to be a misbranding, which is deceptive as a matter of law. State ex rel. Edmisten v. Zim Chem. Co., 45 N.C. App. 604, 263 S.E.2d 849 (1980).

Defendant's failure properly to label drums of antifreeze constituted a misbranding under former § 106-571(2), and such misbranding was a deceptive practice within the meaning of § 75-1.1 as a matter of law. State ex rel. Edmisten v. Zim Chem. Co., 45 N.C. App. 604, 263 S.E.2d 849 (1980).

CASE NOTES

ARTICLE 53.

Grain Dealers.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-605. Execution, terms and form of bond; action on bond.

(a) Such bond shall be signed by the grain dealer and by a company authorized to execute surety bonds in North Carolina and shall be made payable to the State of North Carolina. The bond shall be conditioned on the grain dealer's faithful performance of his duties as a grain dealer and his compliance with

this Article, and shall be for the use and benefit of any person from whom the grain dealer has purchased grain and who has not been paid by the grain dealer. The bond shall be given for the period for which the grain dealer's license is issued.

(b) Any person claiming to be injured by nonpayment, fraud, deceit, negligence or other misconduct of a grain dealer may institute a suit or suits against said grain dealer and his sureties upon the bond in the name of the State, without any assignment thereof. (1973, c. 665, s. 5; 1979, c. 589, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment rewrote this section.

§ 106-610. Grounds for refusal, suspension or revocation of license.

The Commissioner may refuse to grant or renew license, may suspend or may revoke any license upon a showing by substantial and competent evidence that:

- (1) The dealer has suffered a final money judgment to be entered against him and such judgment remains unsatisfied; or
- (2) The dealer has failed to promptly and properly account and pay for grain; or
- (3) The dealer has failed to keep and maintain business records of his grain transactions as required herein; or
- (4) The dealer has engaged in fraudulent or deceptive practices in the transaction of his business as a dealer; or
- (5) The dealer has failed to collect from a producer and remit to the Commissioner of Agriculture such assessments as have been approved by the producers and are required to be collected under the provisions of Article 50 of Chapter 106 of the General Statutes; or
- (6) The dealer or applicant has been convicted, pled guilty or nolo contendere within three years in any state or federal court of a crime involving moral turpitude; or
- (7) The dealer has failed either to file the required bond or to keep such bond in force. (1973, c. 665, s. 10; 1979, c. 589, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment added subdivision (7).

ARTICLE 54.

Adulteration of Grains.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 1, 1983, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 55.

*North Carolina Bee and Honey Act of 1977.***§ 106-634. Declaration of policy.**

Cross References. — As to the aerial application of pesticides which are toxic to bees, see § 143-443.

§ 106-638. Authority of Board to adopt regulations, standards, etc.

Cross References. — As to the aerial application of pesticides which are toxic to bees, see § 143-443.

ARTICLE 56.

North Carolina Commercial Fertilizer Law.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 106-657. Definitions.

When used in this Article:

- (1) The term "brand name" means the name under which any individual mixed fertilizer or fertilizer material is offered for sale, and may include a trademark, but shall not include any numeral other than the grade of the fertilizer.
- (2) The term "bulk fertilizer" means a commercial fertilizer distributed in non-package form.
- (3) The term "commercial fertilizer" includes both fluid and dry mixed fertilizer and/or fertilizer materials.
- (4) The term "contractor" means any person, firm, corporation, wholesaler, retailer, distributor or any other person, who for hire or reward applies commercial fertilizer to the soil or crop of a consumer; provided, that this shall not apply to any consumer applying commercial fertilizer to only the land or crop that he owns or to which he otherwise holds rights, for the production of his own crops.
- (5) The term "distributor" means any person who offers for sale, sells, barter, or otherwise supplies mixed fertilizer or fertilizer materials.
- (6) The term "fertilizer material" means any substance containing either nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, or any other recognized plant food element or compound which is used primarily for its plant food content or for compounding mixed fertilizers. Not included in this definition are all types of unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures and mulches for which no plant food content is claimed.
- (7) The term "fluid fertilizer" means a nonsolid commercial fertilizer.
- (8) The term "fortified mulch" means substances composed primarily of plant remains or mixtures of such substances to which plant food has been added and for which plant food is claimed.

In "fortified mulches" the minimum percentages of total nitrogen, available phosphoric acid, and soluble or available potash are to be guaranteed and the guarantee stated in multiples of quarter (.25) percentages; provided, however, that such percentages shall not exceed one percent (1%), respectively, subject to the same limits and tolerances set forth in this Chapter.

- (9) The term "grade" means the percentage of total nitrogen, available phosphoric acid (as P205) and soluble potash (as K20) only stated in the order given in this subdivision, and, when applied to mixed fertilizers, shall be in whole numbers only for all packages larger than 16 ounces.
- (10) The term "manipulated manures" means substances composed primarily of excreta, plant remains or mixtures of such substances which have been processed in any manner, including the addition of plant foods, artificially drying, grinding and other means.

In "manipulated manures" the minimum percentages of total nitrogen, available phosphoric acid (as P205) and soluble potash (as K20) are to be guaranteed, and the guarantee stated in multiples of half (.50) percentages. Additions of plant food shall be limited to one-half (.50) percent each of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash.

- (11) The term "manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of preparing, mixing, or manufacturing commercial fertilizers or the person whose name appears on the label as being responsible for the guarantee. The term "manufacture" means preparing, mixing, or combining fertilizer materials chemically or physically, including the simultaneous application of two or more fertilizer materials, by a manufacturer or contract applicator.
- (12) The term "mixed fertilizers" means products resulting from the combination, mixture, or simultaneous application of two or more fertilizer materials for use in, or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth.
- (13) The term "mulch" means substances composed primarily of plant remains or mixtures of such substances to which no plant food has been added and for which no plant food is claimed.
- (14) The term "natural organic fertilizer" means material derived from either plant or animal products containing one or more elements (other than carbon, hydrogen and oxygen) which are essential for plant growth. These materials may be subjected to biological degradation processes under normal conditions of aging, rainfall, sun-curing, air drying, composting, rotting, enzymatic, or anaerobic/aerobic bacterial action, or any combination of these. These materials shall not be mixed with synthetic materials, or changed in any physical or chemical manner from their initial state except by physical manipulations such as drying, cooking, chopping, grinding, shredding or pelleting.
- (15) The term "official sample" means any sample of commercial fertilizer taken by the Commissioner or his authorized agent according to the method prescribed in subsection (b) of G.S. 106-662.
- (16) The term "organic fertilizer" means a material containing carbon and one or more elements other than hydrogen and oxygen essential for plant growth.
- (17) The term "percent" or "percentage" means the percentage by weight.
- (18) The term "person" includes individuals, partnerships, associations, firms, agencies, and corporations, or other legal entity.
- (19) The term "retailer" means any person who sells or delivers fertilizer to a consumer.

- (20) The term "sale" means any transfer of title or possession, or both, exchange or barter of tangible personal property, conditional or otherwise for a consideration paid or to be paid, and this shall include any of said transactions whereby title or ownership is to pass and shall further mean and include any bailment, loan, lease, rental or license to use or consume tangible personal property for a consideration paid in which possession of said property passes to the bailee, borrower, lessee, or licensee.
- (21) The term "sell" means the alienation, exchange, transfer or contract for such transfer of property for a fixed price in money or its equivalent.
- (22) The term "specialty fertilizer" means any fertilizer distributed primarily for use on noncommercial crops such as gardens, lawns, shrubs, flowers, golf courses, cemeteries and nurseries.
- (23) The term "ton" means a net ton of 2000 pounds avoirdupois.
- (24) The term "unmanipulated manures" means substances composed primarily of excreta, plant remains or mixtures of such substances which have not been processed in any manner.
- (25) The term "wholesaler" shall mean any person who sells to any other person for the purpose of resale, and who also may sell to a consumer.
- (26) Words importing the singular number may extend and be applied to several persons or things, and words importing the plural number may include the singular. (1947, c. 1086, s. 3; 1951, c. 1026, ss. 1, 2; 1955, c. 354, s. 1; 1959, c. 706, ss. 1, 2; 1961, c. 66, ss. 1, 2; 1977, c. 303, s. 3; 1981, c. 448, ss. 1-4.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, substituted "trademark, but shall not include any numeral other than the grade of the fertilizer" for "number, trademark, or other designation" at the end of subdivision (1), inserted "only," following "(as K20)" in subdivision (9), and deleted "etc., and may include fertilizers used for research or experimental purposes" from the end of subdivision (22). The

amendment rewrote the definitions in subdivision (11) as two sentences, adding "or the person whose name appears on the label as being responsible for the guarantee" to the definition of "manufacturer," and adding "including the simultaneous application of two or more fertilizer materials, by a manufacturer or contract applicator" at the end of the definition of "manufacture."

§ 106-660. Registration of brands; licensing of manufacturers and distributors; fluid fertilizers.

(a) Each brand of commercial fertilizer for tobacco, specialty fertilizer, fertilizer materials, manipulated manure and fortified mulch shall be registered by the person whose name appears upon the label before being offered for sale, sold or distributed in this State, except those brands expressly produced for experimental and demonstration purposes only. Other fertilizers may be manufactured and sold without registration after obtaining a license as required in G.S. 106-661 (a); provided, that such fertilizers contain a minimum of twenty percent (20%) primary plant nutrients, nitrogen (N), available phosphoric acid (P205), and soluble potash (K20). The application for registration shall be submitted in duplicate to the Commissioner for his approval on forms furnished by the Commissioner, and shall include a fee of two dollars (\$2.00) per brand and grade for all packages greater than five pounds. The registration fee for packages of five pounds or less shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). All approved registrations expire on June 30 of each year. The application shall include such information as deemed necessary by the Board of Agriculture.

(b) The distributor of any brand and grade of commercial fertilizer shall not be required to register the same if it has already been registered under this Article by a person entitled to do so and such registration is then outstanding.

(c) The grade of any brand of mixed fertilizer shall not be changed during the registration period, but the guaranteed analysis may be changed in other respects and the sources of materials may be changed: Provided, prompt notification of such change is given to the Commissioner and the change is noted on the container or tag: Provided, further, that the guaranteed analysis shall not be changed if it, in any way, lowers the quality of the fertilizer: Provided, further, that if at a subsequent registration period, the registrant desires to make any change in the registration of a given brand and grade of fertilizer, said registrant shall notify the Commissioner of such change 30 days in advance of such registration. If the Commissioner, after consultation with the director of the agricultural experiment station decides that such change materially lowers the crop producing value of the fertilizer, he shall notify the registrant of his conclusions, and if the registrant registers the brand and grade with the proposed changes, then the Commissioner shall give due publicity to said changes through the Agricultural Review or by such other means as he may deem advisable.

(d) Any person desiring to manufacture or distribute fertilizers not required to be registered shall first secure a license. Application for said license shall be made on forms provided by the Commissioner and shall be accompanied by a reasonable fee to be determined by the Board of Agriculture. Said license shall be renewable annually on the first day of July. Said license may be suspended, revoked or terminated for a violation of this Article or any rule promulgated thereunder.

(e) When fluid fertilizer is offered for sale or sold in this State, the method of transfer of custody shall be by weight expressed in pounds, and shall be invoiced in such a manner as to show the name of the seller, the name of the purchaser, the date of sale, the grade, and the net weight; provided, however, that fluid fertilizer may be measured in gallons of 231 cubic inches and its equivalent expressed in pounds, with a formula for converting from gallons to pounds shown on the invoice.

(f) Any person before engaging in the business of handling, storing or distributing fluid fertilizer in this State shall register with the Commissioner and shall re-register on or before July 1 of each year thereafter so long as he shall engage in said business. The application for registration shall be submitted in duplicate on forms furnished by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

(g) Before any wholesale or retail fluid fertilizer distributing plant shall be built in this State, a general layout of such plant shall be submitted in duplicate and approved by the Commissioner. In order that such a layout may be approved it must conform to the minimum standards and rules and regulations, relating to safe handling, storage, distribution and/or application adopted by the Board of Agriculture. All storage tanks, transfer or transport containers, applicator containers, and attached equipment shall conform to the minimum standards adopted by the Board of Agriculture. It shall be the duty of the contractors referred to in G.S. 106-657(4) to obtain, maintain and operate in accordance with the minimum standards and rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Agriculture, any and all equipment which he may use in the application of fluid fertilizer. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner to inspect and ascertain whether or not the provisions of this section are complied with. (1947, c. 1086, s. 4; 1949, c. 637, s. 1; 1951, c. 1026, ss. 3-6; 1959, c. 706, ss. 3-5; 1961, c. 66, ss. 3, 4; 1973, c. 611, ss. 1-4; 1977, c. 303, s. 6; 1981, c. 448, ss. 5, 6.)

Effect of Amendments.—The 1981 amendment rewrote subsections (a) and (d).

§ 106-661. Labeling.

(a) Any commercial fertilizer offered for sale, sold, or distributed in this State in bags, barrels, or other containers shall have placed on or affixed to the container the net weight and the data in written or printed form, required by G.S. 106-660(a), with the exception of subdivision (5), either (i) on tags to be affixed to the end of the package or (ii) directly on the package. In case the brand name appears on the package, the grade shall also appear on the package, immediately preceding the guaranteed analysis or as a part of the brand name. The size of the type of numerals indicating the grade on the containers shall not be less than two inches in height for containers of 100 pounds or more; not less than one inch for containers of 50 to 99 pounds; and not less than ½ inch for packages of 25 to 49 pounds. On packages of less than 25 pounds, the grade must appear in numerals at least one half as large as the letters in the brand name. In case of fertilizers sold in containers on which the brand name or other designations of the distributor do not appear, the grade must appear in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner on tags attached to the container.

(b) If transported in bulk, the net weight and the data, in written or printed form, as required by G.S. 106-660(a), with the exception of subdivision (5), shall accompany delivery and be supplied to the purchaser.

(c) If mixed fertilizer is sold or intended to be sold in bags weighing more than 100 pounds, each bag must have a tag attached thereto, of a type approved by the Commissioner, showing the grade of the fertilizer contained therein. Such tag must be attached on the end of each bag, approximately at the center of the sewed end of the bag: Provided, that in lieu of such tag the grade of the fertilizer may be printed on the end of the bag in readily legible numerals.

(d) All labels and registrations shall carry identical guarantees for each fertilizer product requiring registration. (1947, c. 1086, s. 5; 1949, c. 637, s. 2; 1955, c. 354, s. 2; 1975, c. 127; 1977, c. 303, s. 7; 1981, c. 448, s. 7.)

Effect of Amendments.—The 1981 amendment deleted "commercial fertilizer" preceding "labels and registrations" in subsection (d) and

substituted "fertilizer product requiring registration" for "product" at the end of subsection (d).

§ 106-662. Sampling, inspection and testing; registration of brand; licensing of manufacturers and distributors fluid fertilizers.

(a) It shall be the duty of the Commissioner to sample, inspect, make analysis of, and test commercial fertilizers offered for sale, sold, or distributed within the State at such time and place and to such an extent as he may deem necessary to determine whether such commercial fertilizers are in compliance with the provisions of this Article. The Commissioner is authorized with permission or under court warrant to enter upon any public or private premises during regular business hours or at any time business is being conducted therein in order to have access to commercial fertilizers subject to the provisions of this Article and the rules and regulations thereto.

(b) The methods of sampling shall be as follows:

- (1) For the purposes of analysis by the Commissioner and for comparison with the guarantee supplied to the Commissioner in accordance with G.S. 106-660 and 106-661, the Commissioner, shall take an official sample of not less than one pound from containers of commercial

fertilizer. No sample shall be taken from less than five containers. Portions shall be taken from containers as shown in the following table:

5 to 10 containers	all containers
11 to 20 containers	10 containers
21 to 40 containers	15 containers
above 40 containers	20 containers

Ten cores from bulk lots or as specified by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (A.O.A.C.).

- (2) A core sampler shall be used that removes a core from a bag or other container in a horizontal position from a corner to the diagonal corner at the other end of the package, and the cores taken shall be mixed, and if necessary, shall be reduced after thoroughly mixing, to the quantity of sample required. The composite sample taken from any lot of commercial fertilizer under the provisions of this subdivision shall be placed in a tight container and shall be forwarded to the Commissioner with proper identification marks.
- (3) The Board of Agriculture may modify the provisions of this subsection to bring them into conformity with any changes that may hereafter be made in the official methods of and recommendations for sampling commercial fertilizers which shall have been adopted by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists or by the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials. Thereafter, such methods and recommendations shall be used in all sampling done in connection with the administration of this Article in lieu of those prescribed in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.
- (4) All samples taken under the provisions of this section shall be taken from original unbroken bags or containers, the contents of which have not been damaged by exposure, water or otherwise; provided, that any commercial fertilizer offered for sale, sold or distributed in bulk may be sampled in a manner approved by the Commissioner.
- (5) The Commissioner shall refuse to analyze all samples except those taken under the provisions of this section and no sample, unless so taken, shall be admitted as evidence in the trial of any suit or action wherein there is called into question the value or composition of any lot of commercial fertilizer distributed under the provisions of this Article.
- (6) In the trial of any suit or action wherein there is called in question the value or composition of any lot of commercial fertilizer, a certificate signed by the fertilizer chemist and attested with the seal of the Department of Agriculture, setting forth the analysis made by the chemist of the Department of Agriculture, of any sample of said commercial fertilizer, drawn under the provisions of this section and analyzed by them under the provisions of the same, shall be prima facie proof that the lot of fertilizer represented by the sample was of the value and constituency shown by said analysis. And the said certificate of the chemist shall be admissible in evidence.

(c) The methods of analysis shall be those adopted as official by the Board of Agriculture and shall conform to sound laboratory practices as evidenced by methods prescribed by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists of the United States. In the absence of methods prescribed by the Board, the Commissioner shall prescribe the methods of analysis.

(d) The result of official analysis of any commercial fertilizer which has been found to be subject to penalty shall be forwarded by the Commissioner to the registrant at least 10 days before the report is submitted to the purchaser. If, during that period, no adequate evidence to the contrary is made available to the Commissioner, the report shall become official. Upon request the Commis-

sioner shall furnish to the registrant a portion of any sample found subject to penalty.

(e) Any purchaser or consumer may take and have a sample of mixed fertilizer or fertilizer material analyzed for available plant food, if taken in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- (1) At least five days before taking a sample, the purchaser or consumer shall notify the manufacturer or seller of the brand in writing, at his permanent address, of his intention to take such a sample and shall request the manufacturer or seller to designate a representative to be present when the sample is taken.
- (2) The sample shall be drawn in the presence of the manufacturer, seller, or representative designated by either party together with two disinterested adult persons; or in case the manufacturer, seller, or representative of either refuses or is unable to witness the drawing of such a sample, a sample may be drawn in the presence of three disinterested adult persons; provided, any such sample shall be taken with the same type of sampler as used by the inspector of the Department of Agriculture in taking samples and shall be drawn, mixed, and divided, as directed in subdivisions (1), (2), (3), and (4) of subsection (b) of this section, except that the sample shall be divided into two parts each to consist of at least one pound. Each of these is to be placed into a separate, tight container, securely sealed, properly labeled, and one sent to the Commissioner for analysis and the other to the manufacturer. A certificate statement in a form which will be prescribed and supplied by the Commissioner must be signed by the parties taking and witnessing the taking of the sample. Such certificate is to be made and signed in duplicate and one copy sent to the Commissioner and the other to the manufacturer or seller of the brand sampled. The witnesses of the taking of any sample, as provided for in this section, shall be required to certify that such sample has been continuously under their observation from the taking of the sample up to and including the delivery of it to an express agency, a post office or to the office of the Commissioner.
- (3) Samples drawn in conformity with the requirements of this section shall have the same legal status in the courts of the State, as those drawn by the Commissioner or any official inspector appointed by him as provided for in subsection (b) of this section.
- (4) No suit for damages claimed to result from the use of any lot of mixed fertilizer or fertilizer material may be brought unless it shall be shown by an analysis of a sample taken and analyzed in accordance with the provisions of this Article, that the said lot of fertilizer as represented by a sample or samples taken in accordance with the provisions of this section does not conform to the provisions of this Article with respect to the composition of the mixed fertilizer or fertilizer material, unless it shall appear to the Commissioner that the manufacturer of the fertilizer in question has, in the manufacture of other goods offered in this State during such season, employed such ingredients as are prohibited by the provisions of this Article, or unless it shall appear to the Commissioner that the manufacturer of such fertilizer has offered for sale during that season any kind of dishonest or fraudulent goods or unless it shall appear to the Commissioner that the manufacturer of the fertilizer in question, or a representative, agent or employee of the manufacturer, has violated any provisions of G.S. 106-663. (1947, c. 1086, s. 7; 1955, c. 354, s. 3; 1973, c. 1304, s. 1; 1977, c. 303, s. 8; 1981, c. 448, s. 8.)

Effect of Amendments.— The 1981 amendment added the proviso in subdivision (b)(4).

§ 106-663. False or misleading statements.

It shall be unlawful to make, in any manner whatsoever, any false or misleading statement or representation with regard to any commercial fertilizer offered for sale, sold, or distributed in this State, or to use any misleading or deceptive trademark or brand name in connection therewith. The Commissioner is authorized to refuse, suspend, revoke or terminate the license of any manufacturer or to refuse, suspend, revoke or terminate the registration of such commercial fertilizer for any violations of this section. (1947, c. 1086, s. 12; 1977, c. 303, s. 9; 1981, c. 448, s. 9.)

Effect of Amendments.— The 1981 amendment substituted the present second sentence for the former second sentence, which read: "The Commissioner is hereby authorized to

refuse the registration of any commercial fertilizer with respect to which this section is violated."

§ 106-669. Effect of violations on license and registration.

The Commissioner is authorized to suspend, revoke or terminate the license of any manufacturer or to refuse, suspend, revoke or terminate the registration of any commercial fertilizer upon proof that the manufacturer has been guilty of fraudulent or deceptive practices, or in the evasion or attempted evasion of this Article or any rule promulgated thereunder. (1947, c. 1086, s. 17; 1977, c. 303, s. 15; 1981, c. 448, s. 10.)

Effect of Amendments.— The 1981 amendment substituted "to suspend, revoke or terminate the license of any manufacturer or to refuse, suspend, revoke or terminate the registration of any" for "and empowered to cancel the registration of any brand of commercial fertilizer or to refuse to register any brand of," substituted "manufacturer has been guilty" for "registrant has been guilty," deleted "the provi-

sions of" preceding "this Article," and substituted "rule promulgated thereunder" for "rules or regulations promulgated thereunder." The 1981 amendment deleted the former second sentence, which read: "No registration shall be cancelled until the registrant has been given an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of Chapter 150A of the General Statutes."

§ 106-677. Grade-tonnage reports.

Each person registering commercial fertilizers under this Article shall furnish the Commissioner with a written statement of the tonnage of each grade of fertilizer sold by him in this State. This information shall be held in confidence by the Commissioner. Said statement shall include all sales for the periods of July first to and including December thirty-first and of January first to and including June thirtieth of each year. The Commissioner may suspend, revoke or terminate the registration of said commercial fertilizer and suspend, revoke or terminate the license of any person failing to comply with this section within 30 days of the close of each period. All information published by the Department of Agriculture pursuant to this section shall be classified so as to prevent the identification of information received from individual registrants. All information received pursuant to this section shall be held confidential by the Department and its employees. (1947, c. 1086, s. 13; 1977, c. 303, s. 23; 1981, c. 448, s. 11.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment rewrote the last three sentences.

ARTICLE 57.

Nuisance Liability of Agricultural Operations.

§ 106-700. Legislative determination and declaration of policy.

It is the declared policy of the State to conserve and protect and encourage the development and improvement of its agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products. When nonagricultural land uses extend into agricultural areas, agricultural operations often become the subject of nuisance suits. As a result, agricultural operations are sometimes forced to cease operations. Many others are discouraged from making investments in farm improvements. It is the purpose of this Article to reduce the loss to the State of its agricultural resources by limiting the circumstances under which agricultural operations may be deemed to be a nuisance. (1979, c. 202, s. 1.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1979, c. 202, s. 2, provides: "This act does not affect actions commenced prior to the effective date hereof. [March 26, 1979]."

Session Laws 1979, c. 202, s. 3, contains a severability clause.

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C. L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

§ 106-701. When agricultural operation, etc., not constituted nuisance by changed conditions in locality.

(a) No agricultural operation or any of its appurtenances shall be or become a nuisance, private or public, by any changed conditions in or about the locality thereof after the same has been in operation for more than one year, when such operation was not a nuisance at the time the operation began; provided, that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply whenever a nuisance results from the negligent or improper operation of any such agricultural operation or its appurtenances.

(b) For the purposes of this Article, "agricultural operation" includes, without limitation, any facility for the production for commercial purposes of crops, livestock, poultry, livestock products, or poultry products.

(c) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not affect or defeat the right of any person, firm, or corporation to recover damages for any injuries or damages sustained by them on account of any pollution of, or change in condition of, the waters of any stream or on the account of any overflow of lands of any such person, firm, or corporation.

(d) Any and all ordinances of any unit of local government now in effect or hereafter adopted that would make the operation of any such agricultural operation or its appurtenances a nuisance or providing for abatement thereof as a nuisance in the circumstance set forth in this section are and shall be null and void; provided, however, that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply whenever a nuisance results from the negligent or improper operation of any such agricultural operation or any of its appurtenances. Provided further, that the provisions shall not apply whenever a nuisance results from an agricultural operation located within the corporate limits of any city at the time of enactment hereof.

(e) This section shall not be construed to invalidate any contracts heretofore made but insofar as contracts are concerned, it is only applicable to contracts and agreements to be made in the future. (1979, c. 202, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

ARTICLE 58.

North Carolina Biologics Law of 1981.

§ 106-707. Short title and purpose.

This Article shall be known as "The North Carolina Biologics Law of 1981." The purpose of the law is to provide for the production and sale of biologics for the prevention or treatment of disease in animals other than man and to establish controls for the sale and use of biologics in North Carolina. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

Cross References. — For purchase and products for control of animal diseases, see resale by Department of Agriculture of § 106-307.1.

§ 106-708. Definitions.

For purposes of this Article, the following words, terms and phrases are defined as follows:

- (1) "Animal" means all birds and mammals, other than man, to which biologics may be administered.
- (2) "Biologics" means preparations made from living organisms and their products, including serums, vaccines, antigens and antitoxins which are used for the treatment or prevention of diseases in animals other than humans, or in the diagnosis of diseases.
- (3) "Board" means the North Carolina Board of Agriculture.
- (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- (5) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-709. Rules and regulations.

The Board of Agriculture shall adopt rules and regulations necessary for the implementation and administration of this Article. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-710. Biologics production license.

- (a) No person shall engage in the production of biologics except in:
 - (1) An establishment licensed by the Department;
 - (2) An establishment licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture; or
 - (3) An establishment producing biologics only for use by the owner or operator of the establishment for animals owned by him, if the biologics are registered with the Commissioner.
- (b) Any establishment applying for a license to produce biologics shall be inspected by the Commissioner. Approval shall be based on compliance with the rules and regulations adopted by the board.

(c) Application for a license to produce biologics shall be made on forms provided by the Commissioner and shall be accompanied by a reasonable fee as established by the board.

(d) Upon approval, a license shall be granted upon payment of the annual license fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each establishment licensed, and an additional fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each product produced at any time during the year. This license shall be renewed annually. The annual renewal fee shall be paid on or before the first day of July of each year. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-711. License revocation or suspension.

The Commissioner, upon a finding that a licensed establishment producing biologics is not in compliance with this Article or any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, may revoke or suspend the license in accordance with Chapter 150A of the General Statutes. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-712. Registration of biologics.

(a) No person shall offer for sale or use any biologic in North Carolina unless it is registered with the Commissioner. The registration shall be made on forms provided by the Commissioner. The forms shall require the applicant to provide information showing that the biologic:

- (1) Is produced under procedures approved by the Commissioner;
- (2) Is safe and noninjurious to animals when used as directed;
- (3) Is labeled for proper handling, use and contents;
- (4) Is produced in an establishment licensed under this Article; and
- (5) Is not in violation of this Article or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder.

(b) The application for registration shall also include a protocol of methods of production in detail which is followed in the production of the biologic, a sample of the label to be placed on the biologic, and any other information prescribed by the board as necessary for the implementation of this Article. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-713. Revocation or suspension of registration.

The Commissioner, upon a finding that a registered biologic is being produced, sold or distributed in violation of this Article or any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, may revoke or suspend the regulation in accordance with Chapter 150A of the General Statutes. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

§ 106-714. Penalties for violation.

(a) Any person adjudged to have violated any provision of this Article or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of no less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per violation and no more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or imprisonment for no less than 60 days and no more than six months, or both. The Attorney General or his representative has concurrent jurisdiction with the district attorneys of this State to prosecute violations under this section.

(b) The Commissioner may apply to the Superior Court for an injunction to restrain and prevent violations of this Article or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder irrespective of whether there exists an adequate remedy elsewhere at law. (1981, c. 552, s. 1.)

Chapter 108.
Social Services.

Article 1.

Administration.

Part 3. County Boards of Social Services.
Sec.
108-7 to 108-16. [Repealed.]

Part 4. County Director of Social Services.
108-17 to 108-19.1. [Repealed.]

Part 5. Special County Attorneys for
Social Service Matters.
108-20 to 108-22. [Repealed.]

Article 2.

Programs of Public Assistance.

108-23 to 108-24.1. [Repealed.]

Part 1. Aid to the Aged and Disabled.
108-25 to 108-28. [Repealed.]

Part 2. Aid to Families with Dependent
Children.
108-38 to 108-39.1. [Repealed.]

Part 3. The Administration of Aid to Families
with Dependent Children.
108-40 to 108-50. [Repealed.]

Part 4. Financing of Programs of Public
Assistance.
108-51 to 108-54.1. [Repealed.]
108-56 to 108-58. [Repealed.]

Part 5. Medical Assistance.
108-59 to 108-61. [Repealed.]

Sec.

108-61.2 to 108-61.8. [Repealed.]

Part 6. State-County Special Assistance for
Adults.
108-62 to 108-65.3. [Repealed.]

Part 7. Foster Home Fund.
108-66. [Repealed.]

Article 3.

Inspection and Licensing Authority.

Part 1A. Licensing of Public Solicitation.
108-75.1 to 108-75.25. [Recodified.]

Part 2. Licensing of Institutions.
108-76 to 108-78. [Recodified.]

Part 3. Local Confinement Facilities.
108-79 to 108-81. [Recodified.]

Article 4A.

**Protection of the Abused, Neglected, or
Exploited Disabled Adult Act.**

108-102 to 108-106.8. [Repealed.]

Article 5.

Family Food Assistance Program.

108-107 to 108-110. [Repealed.]

Article 6.

Economic Opportunity Agencies.

108-116 to 108-123. [Recodified.]

ARTICLE 1.

Administration.

Part 3. County Boards of Social Services.

§§ 108-7 to 108-16: Repealed by Session Laws, 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 4. County Director of Social Services.

§§ 108-17 to 108-19.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 5. Special County Attorneys for Social Service Matters.

§§ 108-20 to 108-22: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108.

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

ARTICLE 2.

Programs of Public Assistance.

§§ 108-23 to 108-24.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 1. Aid to the Aged and Disabled.

§§ 108-25 to 108-28: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 702, s. 2.

Part. 2. Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

§§ 108-38 to 108-39.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108.

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 3. The Administration of Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

§§ 108-40 to 108-50: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 4. Financing of Programs of Public Assistance.

§§ 108-51 to 108-54.1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

§§ 108-56 to 108-58: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 5. Medical Assistance.

§§ 108-59 to 108-61: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until

October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

§§ 108-61.2 to 108-61.8: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter

108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 6. State-County Special Assistance for Adults.

§§ 108-62 to 108-65.3: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 7. Foster Home Fund.

§ 108-66: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27,

1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

ARTICLE 3.

Inspection and Licensing Authority.

Part 1A. Licensing of Public Solicitation.

§§ 108-75.1 to 108-75.25: Recodified as §§ 131C-1 to 131C-22 by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 2, effective October 1, 1981.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not

affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 2. Licensing of Institutions.

§§ 108-76 to 108-78: Recodified as §§ 131D-1 to 131D-5 pursuant to Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 2, effective October 1, 1981.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not

affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Part 3. Local Confinement Facilities.

§§ 108-79 to 108-81: Recodified as §§ 131D-11 to 131D-13 pursuant to Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 2, effective October 1, 1981.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108." Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

ARTICLE 4A.

Protection of the Abused, Neglected, or Exploited Disabled Adult Act.

§§ 108-102 to 108-106.8: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108." Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

ARTICLE 5.

Family Food Assistance Program.

§§ 108-107 to 108-110: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 1, effective October 1, 1981.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to social services, see Chapter 108A.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108." Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

ARTICLE 6.

Economic Opportunity Agencies.

§§ 108-116 to 108-123: Recodified as §§ 143B-344.3 to 143B-344.10 by Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 3, effective October 1, 1981.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1, 1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108." Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

Chapter 108A. Social Services.

Article 1.

County Administration.

Part 1. County Boards of Social Services.

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Part 2. County Director of Social Services.

- 108A-12. Appointment.
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Part 3. Special County Attorneys for Social Service Matters.

- 108A-16. Appointment.
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Article 2.

Programs of Public Assistance.

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- 108A-24. Definitions.
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Part 3. State-County Special Assistance for Adults.

- 108A-40. Authorization of State-County Special Assistance for Adults Program.
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108A-47. Limitations on payments.

Part 4. Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Payments.

- 108A-48. State Foster Care Benefits Program.
108A-49. Foster care and adoption assistance payments.
108A-50. State benefits for certain adoptive children.

Part 5. Food Stamp Program.

- 108A-51. Authorization for Food Stamp Program.
108A-52. Determination of eligibility.
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Part 6. Medical Assistance Program.

- 108A-54. Authorization of Medical Assistance Program.
108A-55. Payments.
108A-56. Acceptance of federal grants.
108A-57. Subrogation rights; withholding of information a misdemeanor.
108A-58. Transfer of property for purposes of qualifying for medical assistance; periods of ineligibility.
108A-59. Acceptance of medical assistance constitutes assignment to the State of right to third party benefits; recovery procedure.

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Sec.

- 108A-60. Protection of patient property.
- 108A-61. Financial responsibility of spouse for long-term care patient.
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Article 3.

Social Services Programs.

- 108A-71. Authorization of social services programs.
- 108A-72. Social services checks payable to decedents.
- 108A-73. Services appeals and confidentiality of records.
- 108A-74 to 108A-78. [Reserved.]

Article 4.

Public Assistance and Social Services Appeals and Access to Records.

- 108A-79. Appeals.
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- 108A-81 to 108A-85. [Reserved.]

Article 5.

Financing of Programs of Public Assistance and Social Services.

- 108A-86. Financial transactions between the State and counties.
- 108A-87. Allocation of nonfederal shares.
- 108A-88. Determination of State and county financial participation.
- 108A-89. State Public Assistance Contingency Loan Program.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, repealed former Chapter 108, Social Services, and enacted present Chapter 108A in its place. Where appropriate, the historical citations to the sections in the former Chapter have been

Sec.

- 108A-90. Counties to levy taxes.
- 108A-91. Appropriations not to revert.
- 108A-92. State Public Assistance Equalization Program.
- 108A-93. Withholding of State moneys from counties failing to pay public assistance costs.
- 108A-94 to 108A-98. [Reserved.]

Article 6.

Protection of the Abused, Neglected or Exploited Disabled Adult Act.

- 108A-99. Short title.
- 108A-100. Legislative intent and purpose.
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- 108A-102. Duty to report; content of report; immunity.
- 108A-103. Duty of director upon receiving report.
- 108A-104. Provision of protective services with the consent of the person; withdrawal of consent; caretaker refusal.
- 108A-105. Provision of protective services to disabled adults who lack the capacity to consent; hearing, findings, etc.
- 108A-106. Emergency intervention; findings by court; limitations; contents of petition; notice of petition; court authorized entry of premises; immunity of petitioner.
- 108A-107. Motion in the cause.
- 108A-108. Payment for essential services.
- 108A-109. Reporting abuse.
- 108A-110. Funding of protective services.
- 108A-111. Adoption of standards.

added to corresponding sections in the new Chapter. The cases cited under the various sections below were decided under the corresponding sections of former Chapter 108.

ARTICLE 1.

County Administration.

Part 1. County Boards of Social Services.

§ 108A-1. Creation.

Every county shall have a board of social services which shall establish county policies for the programs established by this Chapter in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission and under the supervision of the Department of Human Resources. Provided, however, county policies for the program of medical assistance shall be established in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Department of Human Resources. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 6; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 11, makes this Chapter effective Oct. 1, 1981. Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 10, provides: "The provisions of G.S. Chapter 108 shall remain in full force and effect from the date of ratification of this act [April 27, 1981] until October 1,

1981. This act shall not affect any litigation pending under the existing provisions of Chapter 108."

Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 9, contains a severability clause.

CASE NOTES

Stated in *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

Cited in *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of*

Human Resources, 296 N.C. 683, 252 S.E.2d 792 (1979).

§ 108A-2. Size.

The county board of social services in each county shall consist of three members, except that the board of commissioners of any county may increase such number to five members. The decision to increase the size to five members or to reduce a five-member board to three shall be reported immediately in writing by the chairman of the board of commissioners to the Department of Human Resources. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Local Modification. — Mecklenburg: 1981, c. 625.

§ 108A-3. Method of appointment; residential qualifications; fee or compensation for services.

(a) **Three-Member Board:** The board of commissioners shall appoint one member who may be a county commissioner or a citizen selected by the board; the Social Services Commission shall appoint one member; and the two members so appointed shall select the third member. In the event the two members

so appointed are unable to agree upon selection of the third member, the senior regular resident superior court judge of the county shall make the selection.

(b) Five-Member Board: The procedure set forth in subsection (a) shall be followed, except that both the board of commissioners and the Social Services Commission shall appoint two members each, and the four so appointed shall select the fifth member. If the four are unable to agree upon the fifth member, the senior regular superior court judge of the county shall make the selection.

(c) Provided further that each member so appointed under subsection (a) and subsection (b) of this section by the Social Services Commission and by the county board of commissioners or the senior regular resident superior court judge of the county, shall be bona fide residents of the county from which they are appointed to serve, and will receive as their fee or compensation for their services rendered from the Department of Human Resources directly or indirectly only the fees and compensation as provided by G.S. 108A-8. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 369; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Stated in *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

Cited in *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 37 N.C. App. 86, 245 S.E.2d

892 (1978); *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 296 N.C. 683, 252 S.E.2d 792 (1979).

§ 108A-4. Term of appointment.

Each member of a county board of social services shall serve for a term of three years. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the limitation on consecutive terms does not apply if the member of the social services board was a member of the board of county commissioners at any time during the first two consecutive terms, and is a member of the board of county commissioners at the time of reappointment. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 770.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment added the third sentence. The amendatory act, which was ratified July 2, 1981, and

made effective on ratification, also made the same amendment to former § 108-10, corresponding to this section.

§ 108A-5. Order of appointment.

(a) Three-Member Board: The term of the member appointed by the Social Services Commission shall expire on June 30, 1981, and every three years thereafter; the term of the member appointed by the board of commissioners shall expire on June 30, 1983, and every three years thereafter; and the term of the third member shall expire on June 30, 1982, and every three years thereafter.

(b) Five-Member Board: Whenever a board of commissioners of any county decides to expand a three-member board to a five-member board of social services, the Social Services Commission shall appoint an additional member for a term expiring at the same time as the term of the existing member

appointed by the board of commissioners, and the board of commissioners shall appoint an additional member for a term expiring at the same time as the term of the existing member appointed by the Social Services Commission. The change to a five-member board shall become effective at the time when the additional members shall have been appointed by both the county board of commissioners and the Social Services Commission. Thereafter all appointments shall be for three-year terms.

(c) Change from Five-Member to Three-Member Board: The change shall become effective on the first day of July following the decision to change by the board of commissioners. On that day, the following two seats on the board of social services shall cease to exist:

- (1) The seat held by the member appointed by the Social Services Commission whose term would have expired on June 30, 1983, or triennially thereafter; and
- (2) The seat held by the member appointed by the board of commissioners whose term would have expired June 30, 1981, or triennially thereafter. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 724, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-6. Vacancies.

Appointments to fill vacancies shall be made in the manner set out in G.S. 108A-3. All such appointments shall be for the remainder of the former member's term of office and shall not constitute a term for the purposes of G.S. 108A-4. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-7. Meetings.

The board of social services of each county shall meet at least once per month, or more often if a meeting is called by the chairman. Such board shall elect a chairman from its members at its July meeting each year, and the chairman shall serve a term of one year or until a new chairman is elected by the board. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 4; C. S., s. 5015; 1937, c. 319, s. 4; 1941, c. 270, s. 3; 1947, c. 92; 1959, c. 320; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-8. Compensation of members.

Members of the county board of social services may receive a per diem in such amount as shall be established by the county board of commissioners and travel expenses not to exceed the amounts provided by G.S. 138-5 for attendance at official meetings and conferences, provided such per diem or travel is authorized by the board of commissioners. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 4; C. S., s. 5015; 1937, c. 319, s. 4; 1941, c. 270, s. 3; 1947, c. 92; 1959, c. 320; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 124; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-9. Duties and responsibilities.

The county board of social services shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) To select the county director of social services according to the merit system rules of the State Personnel Commission;

- (2) To advise county and municipal authorities in developing policies and plans to improve the social conditions of the community;
- (3) To consult with the director of social services about problems relating to his office, and to assist him in planning budgets for the county department of social services;
- (4) To transmit or present the budgets of the county department of social services for public assistance, social services, and administration to the board of county commissioners;
- (5) To have such other duties and responsibilities as the General Assembly, the Department of Human Resources or the Social Services Commission or the board of county commissioners may assign to it. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 7; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Extent of Authority Exercised by County over Director. — It is apparent that the county is at most only equal to the State in the authority it can exert over the director of social services. *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

In an action by plaintiff alleging that her constitutional rights had been violated by termination of her employment as eligibility supervisor of county department of social ser-

vices by the director, the county could not be held liable to the plaintiff since the director was not acting for the county, but rather for the State, and since the county board of social services does not have the authority to dismiss the eligibility supervisor. *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

Applied in *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 37 N.C. App. 86, 245 S.E.2d 892 (1978).

§ 108A-10. Fees.

The county board of social services is authorized to enter into contracts with any governmental or private agency, or with any person, whereby the board of social services agrees to render services to or for such agency or person in exchange for a fee to cover the cost of rendering such service. This authority is to be limited to services voluntarily rendered and voluntarily received, but shall not apply where the charging of a fee for a particular service is specifically prohibited by statute or regulation. The fees to be charged under the authority of this section are to be based upon a plan recommended by the county director of social services and approved by the local board of social services and the board of county commissioners. In no event is the fee charged to exceed the cost to the board of social services. Fee policies may not conflict with rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission or Department of Human Resources regarding fees.

The fees collected under the authority of this section are to be deposited to the account of the social services department so that they may be expended for social services purposes in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of Chapter 159, the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. No individual employee is to receive any compensation over and above his regular salary as a result of rendering services for which a fee is charged.

The county board of social services shall annually report to the county commissioners receipts received under this section. Fees collected under this section shall not be used to replace any other funds, either State or local, for the program for which the fees were collected. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-11. Inspection of records by members.

Every member of the county board of social services may inspect and examine any record on file in the office of the director relating in any manner to applications for and provision of public assistance and social services authorized by this Chapter. No member shall disclose or make public any information which he may acquire by examining such records. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5014; 1937, c. 319, s. 3; 1941, c. 270, s. 2; 1945, c. 47; 1953, c. 132; 1955, c. 249; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1959, c. 1255, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 139; c. 247, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Stated in *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

Part 2. County Director of Social Services.

§ 108A-12. Appointment.

(a) The board of social services of every county shall appoint a director of social services in accordance with the merit system rules of the State Personnel Commission. Any director dismissed by such board shall have the right of appeal under the same rules.

(b) Two or more boards of social services may jointly employ a director of social services to serve the appointing boards and such boards may also combine any other functions or activities as authorized by Part 1 of Article 20 of Chapter 160A. The boards shall agree on the portion of the director's salary and the portion of expenses for other joint functions and activities that each participating county shall pay. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, ss. 3, 4; C. S., s. 5016; 1921, c. 128; 1929, c. 291, s. 1; 1931, c. 423; 1937, c. 319, s. 5; 1941, c. 270, s. 4; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Department of Human Resources Liable for Acts of County Director Negligently Placing Foster Child. — In an action alleging that a foster child was negligently placed in a home by the Durham County Department of Social Services, the Department of Human Resources would be liable for the negligent acts of its agents, the Durham County Director of

Social Services and his subordinates, since the Department of Human Resources, through the Social Services Commission has the right to control the manner in which the county director is to execute his obligation to place children in foster homes. *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 296 N.C. 683, 252 S.E.2d 792 (1979).

§ 108A-13. Salary.

The board of social services of every county, with the approval of the board of county commissioners, shall determine the salary of the director in accordance with the classification plan of the State Personnel Commission, and such salary shall be paid by the county from the federal, State and county funds available for this purpose. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, ss. 3, 4; C. S., s. 5016; 1921, c. 128; 1929, c. 291, s. 1; 1931, c. 423; 1937, c. 319, s. 5; 1941, c. 270, s. 4; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Stated in *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981). **Human Resources**, 296 N.C. 683, 252 S.E.2d 792 (1979).
Cited in *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of*

§ 108A-14. Duties and responsibilities.

The director of social services shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) To serve as executive officer of the board of social services and act as its secretary;
- (2) To appoint necessary personnel of the county department of social services in accordance with the merit system rules of the State Personnel Commission;
- (3) To administer the programs of public assistance and social services established by this Chapter under pertinent rules and regulations;
- (4) To administer funds provided by the board of commissioners for the care of indigent persons in the county under policies approved by the county board of social services;
- (5) To act as agent of the Social Services Commission and Department of Human Resources in relation to work required by the Social Services Commission and Department of Human Resources in the county;
- (6) To investigate cases for adoption and to supervise adoptive placements;
- (7) To issue employment certificates to children under the regulations of the State Department of Labor;
- (8) To supervise boarding homes, rest homes and convalescent homes for aged or infirm persons, under the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission;
- (9) To assist and cooperate with the Department of Correction and their representatives;
- (10) To act in conformity with the provisions of Article 7, Chapter 35 of the General Statutes with regard to sterilization of mentally ill and mentally retarded persons;
- (11) To investigate reports of child abuse and neglect and to take appropriate action to protect such children pursuant to the Child Abuse Reporting Law, Article 44 of Chapter 7A; and
- (12) To accept children for placement in foster homes and to supervise placements for so long as such children require foster home care. (1917, c. 170, s. 1; 1919, c. 46, s. 3; C. S., s. 5017; 1941, c. 270, s. 5; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 710, s. 5; 1973, c. 476, ss. 133.3, 138; c. 1262, s. 109; c. 1339, s. 2; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 8; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Authority Exercised by County Over Director. — It is apparent that the county is at most only equal to the State in the authority it can exert over the director of social services. *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

Department of Human Resources Liable for Acts of County Director Negligently Placing Foster Child. — In an action alleging

that a foster child was negligently placed in a home by the Durham County Department of Social Services, the Department of Human Resources would be liable for the negligent acts of its agents, the Durham County Director of Social Services and his subordinates, since the Department of Human Resources, through the Social Services Commission has the right to control the manner in which the county director

is to execute his obligation to place children in foster homes. *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 296 N.C. 683, 252 S.E.2d 792 (1979).

Applied in *Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources*, 37 N.C. App. 86, 245 S.E.2d 892 (1978).

§ 108A-15. Social services officials and employees as public guardians.

The director and assistant directors of social services of each county are authorized to serve as guardians for adults adjudicated incompetent under the provisions of Chapter 35, Article 1A, and they shall do so if ordered to serve in that capacity by the clerk of the superior court having jurisdiction of a guardianship proceeding brought under that Article. (1977, c. 725, s. 6; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 3. Special County Attorneys for Social Service Matters.

§ 108A-16. Appointment.

With the approval of the board of social services, the board of commissioners of any county may appoint a licensed attorney to serve as a special county attorney for social service matters, or designate the county attorney as special county attorney for social service matters. (1959, c. 1124, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-17. Compensation.

The special county attorney for social service matters shall receive compensation for the performance of his duties and for his expenses in such amount as the board of commissioners may provide. His compensation shall be a proper item in the annual budget of the county department of social services. (1959, c. 1124, s. 1; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-18. Duties and responsibilities.

(a) The special county attorney shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) To serve as legal advisor to the county director, the county board of social services, and the board of county commissioners on social service matters;
- (2) To represent the county, the plaintiff, or the obligee in all proceedings brought under Chapter 52A, the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act and to exercise continuous supervision of compliance with any order entered in any proceeding under that act;
- (3) To represent the county board of social services in appeal proceedings and in any litigation relating to appeals;
- (4) To assist the district attorney with the preparation and prosecution of criminal cases under Article 40 of Chapter 14, entitled "Protection of the Family";
- (5) To assist the district attorney with the preparation and prosecution of proceedings authorized by Chapter 49, entitled "Bastardy";
- (6) To perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the board of county commissioners, the board of social services, or the director of social services.

(b) In performing any of the duties and responsibilities set out in this section, the special county attorney is authorized to call upon any director of social

services or the Department of Human Resources for any information as he may require to perform his duties, and such director and Department are directed to assist him in performing such duties. (1959, c. 1124, ss. 2, 3; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 47, s. 2; c. 476, s. 138; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§§ 108A-19 to 108A-23: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 2.

Programs of Public Assistance.

Part 1. In General.

§ 108A-24. Definitions.

As used in Chapter 108A:

- (1) "Applicant" is any person who requests assistance or on whose behalf assistance is requested.
- (2) "Department" is the Department of Human Resources, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
- (3) "Dependent child" is a person under 18 years of age who is living with a natural parent, adoptive parent, stepparent, or any other person related by blood, marriage, or legal adoption, in a place of residence maintained by one or more of such persons as his or their own home, and who is deprived of parental support or care; it shall also include a minor who has been eligible for AFDC who is now living in a foster-care facility or child-caring institution; it shall also include a dependent child in school under 21 years of age as provided by Titles IV-A and XIX of the Social Security Act.
- (4) "Permanently and totally disabled" is a person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially precludes him from obtaining gainful employment, and such impairment appears reasonably certain to continue without substantial improvement throughout his lifetime.
- (5) "Recipient" is a person to whom, or on whose behalf, assistance is granted under this Article.
- (6) "Resident," unless otherwise defined by federal regulation, is a person who is living in North Carolina at the time of application with the intent to remain permanently or for an indefinite period; or who is a person who enters North Carolina seeking employment or with a job commitment.
- (7) "Secretary" is the Secretary of Human Resources, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-25. Creation of programs.

(a) The following programs of public assistance are hereby established, and shall be administered by the county department of social services or the Department of Human Resources under federal regulations or under rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission and under the supervision of the Department of Human Resources:

- (1) Aid to families with dependent children;
- (2) State-county special assistance for adults;
- (3) Food stamp program;
- (4) Foster care and adoption assistance payments;

(5) Low income energy assistance program.

(b) The program of medical assistance is hereby established as a program of public assistance and shall be administered by the county departments of social services under rules and regulations adopted by the Department of Human Resources.

(c) The Department of Human Resources is hereby authorized to accept all grants-in-aid for programs of public assistance which may be available to the State by the federal government. The provisions of this Article shall be liberally construed in order that the State and its citizens may benefit fully from such grants-in-aid. (1937, c. 135, s. 1; c. 288, ss. 3, 31; 1949, c. 1038, s. 2; 1955, c. 1044, s. 1; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1965, c. 1173, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1975, c. 92, s. 4; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 9; 1979, c. 702, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Applied in Vaughn v. North Carolina Dep't of Human Resources, 37 N.C. App. 86, 245 S.E.2d 892 (1978).

Cited in Vaughn v. Durham County Dep't of Social Servs., 34 N.C. App. 416, 240 S.E.2d 456 (1977).

§ 108A-26. Certain financial assistance and in-kind goods not considered in determining assistance paid under Chapters 108A and 111.

Financial assistance and in-kind goods or services received from a governmental agency, or from a civic or charitable organization, shall not be considered in determining the amount of assistance to be paid any person under Chapters 108A and 111 of the General Statutes provided that such financial assistance and in-kind goods and services are incorporated in the rehabilitation plan of such person being assisted by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services or the Division of Services for the Blind of the Department of Human Resources, except where such goods and services are required to be considered by federal law or regulations. (1973, c. 716; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 2. Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

§ 108A-27. Authorization of Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program.

The Department is authorized to establish and supervise an Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program. This program is to be administered by county departments of social services under federal regulations and rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-28. Eligibility requirements; certain contributions to be disregarded.

(a) Assistance shall be granted to any dependent child, as defined in G.S. 108A-24(3), who:

- (1) Is a resident of the State or whose mother was a resident when the child was born;
- (2) Has been deprived of parental support or care by reason of a parent's death, physical or mental incapacity, or continued absence from the home;

(3) Has no adequate means of support.

(b) Assistance shall be granted to a parent or relative, as specified in G.S. 108A-24(3), with whom a dependent child lives who:

(1) Is assuming responsibility for the child's ongoing care;

(2) Is a resident of the State;

(3) Has no adequate means of support. (1937, c. 288, s. 35; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1941, c. 232; 1945, c. 615, s. 1; 1961, c. 533; 1965, c. 939, s. 1; 1967, c. 660; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 714, ss. 1-3; c. 826; 1979, c. 162, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Legal Periodicals. — For article reviewing the development of protective services for children in this state, see 54 N.C.L. Rev. 743 (1976).

CASE NOTES

Cited in *Hughey v. Cloninger*, 297 N.C. 86, 253 S.E.2d 898 (1979).

§ 108A-29. Limitations on eligibility.

(a) The Social Services Commission shall adopt such administrative rules concerning work requirements as conditions of eligibility for Aid to Families with Dependent Children in order to be in compliance with federal regulations, but such rules shall not be more restrictive than the work requirements applicable to the work incentive program provided for in G.S. 108A-30.

(b) Members of families with dependent children and with aggregate family income at or below the level required for eligibility for Aid to Families with Dependent Children assistance, regardless of whether or not they have applied for such assistance, shall be given priority in obtaining manpower services including training and public service employment provided by or through State agencies or with funds which are allocated to the State of North Carolina directly or indirectly through prime sponsors or otherwise for the purpose of employment of unemployed persons. (1961, c. 998; 1963, c. 1061; 1965, c. 939, s. 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 283; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, c. 362; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-30. Work incentive program adopted; evidence of refusal to participate in special work projects; protective and vendor payments.

(a) The provisions of Part C of Title IV of the Federal Social Security Act pertaining to the work incentive program for recipients of aid to families with dependent children assistance, and the benefits thereunder, are hereby accepted and adopted.

(b) The work incentive program provided for by this section is a part of, and subject to all the same provisions of law as, the aid to families with dependent children program provided for in this Article; except that in the case of inconsistent provisions, the provisions of this section shall be deemed exceptions to other provisions of law in this Article.

(c) Written notice of a finding by the United States Secretary of Labor, or the United States Department of Labor, the Employment Security Commission, or other authorized agent of the Secretary of Labor as to whether a person has refused without good cause to accept employment or participate in a project shall be binding upon the State and its agencies and the political subdivisions of the State. Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the

original or copy of such a notice bearing the certification of a State or county agency that it is the original or true copy of the original in or from the records of the agency shall be admissible in evidence without the appearance of a witness, and it shall be prima facie evidence that it was duly received by the agency from the Secretary of Labor or his authorized agent.

(d) Protective and vendor payments required to be made under the work incentive program shall be made in accordance with federal rules and regulations and the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission. (1969, c. 739, s. 2; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 744, s. 2; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-31. Application for assistance.

Any person or his representative who believes that he or another person is eligible to receive aid to families with dependent children may apply for assistance to the county department of social services in the county in which the applicant resides. It shall be made in such form and shall contain such information as the Social Services Commission and federal regulations may require. (1937, c. 288, ss. 15, 45; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1941, c. 232; 1945, c. 615, s. 1; 1947, c. 91, s. 3; 1953, c. 675, s. 12; 1959, c. 179, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 742; 1979, c. 702, s. 4; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-32. Investigation of applicant.

Upon receipt of an application for public assistance, the county department shall make a prompt evaluation or investigation of the facts alleged in the application in order to determine the applicant's eligibility for assistance and to obtain such other information as the Department may require. (1937, c. 288, ss. 15, 45; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1941, c. 232; 1945, c. 615, s. 1; 1947, c. 91, s. 3; 1953, c. 675, s. 12; 1959, c. 179, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 38; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-33. Granting or denial of assistance.

(a) The county director of social services shall submit his findings and recommendations on each application for aid to families with dependent children to the county board of social services at its next meeting for its approval of assistance in each case; but the board of social services may delegate to the director the authority to consider, process and approve or reject all applications for assistance, in which event the director shall not be required to report his actions to the board.

(b) The county board of social services may delegate authority to the director to consider and process applications for assistance in all cases that require immediate action to prevent undue hardship; in such cases, the director shall report on his actions to the board at its next meeting, and the board shall approve, reject or modify such decisions.

(c) The board of county commissioners may review any final action of the county board of social services or the county director of social services with regard to any application for assistance or modifying or terminating any public assistance previously made. The recipient of disputed assistance shall receive notice of the time and place of such review. If the board of commissioners deems that assistance was improperly allowed or denied under federal regulations and policies of the Social Services Commission or the Department, it may order that proper action be taken, with notice thereof given to the recipient and a copy to the county board of social services and the Secretary. Any modification made by the board of county commissioners shall be subject to review by the Secretary.

(d) All rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department which govern eligibility for public assistance from State appropriations or the amount of public assistance shall be subject to the approval of the Director of the Budget and the Advisory Budget Commission. (1937, c. 288, ss. 15, 16, 45, 46; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1941, c. 232; 1945, c. 615, s. 1; 1947, c. 91, s. 3; 1953, c. 675, s. 12; 1959, c. 179, ss. 1, 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 523, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 12; 1979, c. 702, s. 5; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-34. Reconsideration of public assistance.

All public assistance shall be considered as frequently as required by the rules of the Social Services Commission or the Department in the case of medical assistance. Whenever the condition of any recipient has changed to the extent that his assistance must be modified or terminated, the county director may make the appropriate termination or change in payment and submit it to the county board of social services for approval at its next meeting, but the board may waive the requirement that the director submit his actions to the board for its approval. (1937, c. 288, ss. 19, 49; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 523, s. 2; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 13; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-35. Removal to another county.

Any recipient who moves from one county to another county of this State shall continue to receive public assistance if eligible. The county director in the county from which he has moved shall transfer all necessary records relating to the recipient to the county director of the county to which the recipient has moved. The county from which the recipient moves shall pay the amount of assistance to which the recipient is entitled for a period of one month following his move, and thereafter the county to which the recipient has moved shall pay such assistance. (1937, c. 288, ss. 20, 50; 1943, c. 505, ss. 3, 7; 1961, c. 186; 1963, c. 136; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1977, c. 654; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-36. Assistance not assignable; checks payable to decedents.

The assistance granted by this Article shall not be transferable or assignable at law or in equity; and none of the money paid or payable as assistance shall be subject to execution, levy, attachment, garnishment, or other legal processes, or to the operation of any bankruptcy or insolvency law.

In the event of the death of a public assistance recipient during or after the first day of the month for which assistance was previously authorized by the county social services board, or county director if waived, any public assistance check or checks payable to such recipient not endorsed prior to such recipient's death shall be delivered to the clerk of superior court and by him administered under the provisions of G.S. 28A-25-6. (1937, c. 288, ss. 17, 47; 1945, c. 615, s. 1; 1953, c. 213; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 446, ss. 1, 2; 1977, c. 655, ss. 1, 2; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-37. Personal representative for mismanaged public assistance.

(a) Whenever a county director of social services shall determine that a recipient of assistance is unwilling or unable to manage such assistance to the extent that deprivation or hazard to himself or others results, the director shall file a petition before a district court or the clerk of superior court in the county alleging such facts and requesting the appointment of a personal representative.

representative to be responsible for receiving such assistance and to use it for the benefit of the recipient.

(b) Upon receipt of such petition, the court shall promptly hold a hearing, provided the recipient shall receive five days' notice in writing of the time and place of such hearing. If the court, sitting without a jury, shall find at the hearing that the facts alleged in the petition are true, it may appoint some responsible person as personal representative. The personal representative shall serve without compensation and be responsible to the court for the faithful performance of his duties. He shall serve until the director of social services or the recipient shows to the court that the personal representative is no longer required or is unsuitable. All costs of court relating to proceedings under this section shall be waived.

(c) Any recipient for whom a personal representative is appointed may appeal such appointment to superior court for a hearing de novo without a jury.

(d) All findings of fact made under the proceedings authorized by this section shall not be competent as evidence in any case or proceeding which concerns any subject matter other than that of appointing a personal representative. (1959, c. 1239, ss. 1, 3; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-38. Protective and vendor payments.

Instead of the use of personal representatives provided for by G.S. 108A-37, when necessary to comply with any present or future federal law or regulation in order to obtain federal participation in public assistance payments, the payments may be made direct to vendors to reimburse them for goods and services provided the applicants or recipients, and may be made to protective payees who shall act for the applicant or recipient for receiving and managing assistance. Payments to vendors and protective payees shall be made to the extent provided in, and in accordance with, rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department, which rules and regulations shall be subject to applicable federal laws and regulations. (1963, c. 380; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; c. 747; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 20; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-39. Fraudulent misrepresentation.

(a) Any person whether provider or recipient, or person representing himself as such, who willfully and knowingly and with intent to deceive makes a false statement or representation or who fails to disclose a material fact and as a result of making a false statement or representation or failing to disclose a material fact obtains, for himself or another person, attempts to obtain for himself or another person, or continues to receive or enables another person to continue to receive public assistance in the amount of not more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00) is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction or plea of guilty shall be fined or imprisoned or both at the discretion of the court.

(b) Any person, whether provider or recipient, or person representing himself as such who willfully and knowingly with the intent to deceive makes a false statement or representation or fails to disclose a material fact and as a result of making a false statement or representation or failing to disclose a material fact, obtains for himself or another person, attempts to obtain for himself or another person, or continues to receive or enables another person to continue to receive public assistance in an amount of more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00) is guilty of a Class I felony.

(c) As used in this section the word "person" means person, association, consortium, corporation, body politic, partnership, or other group, entity, or organization. (1937, c. 288, ss. 27, 57; 1963, cc. 1013, 1024, 1062; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1977, c. 604, s. 1; 1979, c. 510, s. 2; c. 907; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 3. State-County Special Assistance for Adults.

§ 108A-40. Authorization of State-County Special Assistance for Adults Program.

The Department is authorized to establish and supervise a State-County Special Assistance for Adults Program. This program is to be administered by county departments of social services under rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-41. Eligibility.

(a) Assistance shall be granted under this Part to all persons in domiciliary facilities for care found to be essential in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission.

(b) Assistance shall be granted to any person who:

- (1) Is 65 years of age and older, or is between the ages of 18 and 65 and is permanently and totally disabled; and
- (2) Has insufficient income or other resources to provide a reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health as determined by the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission; and
- (3) Is a resident of North Carolina.

(c) When determining whether a person has insufficient resources to provide a reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health, there shall be excluded from consideration the person's primary place of residence and the land on which it is situated, and in addition there shall be excluded real property contiguous with the person's primary place of residence in which the property tax value is less than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000).

(d) The county shall also have the option of granting assistance to Certain Disabled persons as defined in the rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission. Nothing in this Part should be interpreted so as to preclude any individual county from operating any program of financial assistance using only county funds. (1949, c. 1038, s. 2; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 717, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1252, s. 1; 1979, c. 702, s. 8; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 849, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, designated the original subsection (c) as (d) and added present subsection (c).

§ 108A-42. Determination of disability.

(a) An applicant between the ages of 18 and 65 seeking assistance under this Part must be found to be permanently and totally disabled as defined in G.S. 108A-24(4) by a physician or by a medical review board; such physician or board must submit any findings of disability to the county department of social services for transmittal to the Department.

(b) All applications for assistance as a permanently and totally disabled person under this Part shall be reviewed by medical consultants employed by the Department. The final decision on the disability factor shall be made by such medical consultants under rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission. (1979, c. 702, s. 9; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-43. Application procedure.

(a) Applications under this Part shall be made to the county director of social services who, with the approval of the county board of social services and in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission, shall determine whether assistance shall be granted and the amount of such assistance; but the county board of social services may delegate to the county director the authority to approve or reject all applications for assistance under this Part, in which event the county director shall not be required to report his actions to the board.

(b) The amount of assistance which any eligible person may receive shall be determined with regard to the resources and necessary expenditures of the applicant, in accordance with the appropriate rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission. (1949, c. 1038, s. 2; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 717, s. 4; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-44. State funds to counties.

(a) Appropriations made under this Part by the General Assembly to the Department, together with grants of the federal government (when such grants are made available to the State) shall be used exclusively for assistance to needy persons eligible under this Part.

(b) Allotments shall be made annually by the Department to the counties participating in the program established by this Part.

(c) No allotment shall be used, either directly or indirectly, to replace county appropriations or expenditures. (1949, c. 1038, s. 2; 1955, c. 310, s. 3; 1961, c. 186; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 717, s. 5; 1975, c. 92, s. 2; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-45. Participation.

The State-County Special Assistance for Adults Program established by this Part shall be administered by all the county departments of social services under rules and regulations adopted by the Social Services Commission and under the supervision of the Department. Provided that, assistance for certain disabled persons shall be provided solely at the option of the county. (1949, c. 1038, s. 2; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 717, s. 6; 1975, c. 92, s. 3; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1252, s. 2; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-46. Transfer of property for purposes of qualifying for State-county special assistance for adults; periods of ineligibility.

(a) Any person, otherwise eligible, who, either while receiving State-county special assistance or within one year prior to the date of applying for assistance, unless some other time period is mandated by controlling federal law, sells, gives, assigns or transfers countable real or personal property or an interest therein, either by himself or through his legal representative, for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for State-county special assistance, shall be ineligible to receive assistance thereafter as set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

Countable real and personal property shall be real property, excluding a homesite, intangible personal property, nonessential motor and recreational vehicles, nonincome producing business equipment, boats and motors. The provisions of this act shall not apply to the sale, gift, assignment or transfer of real or personal property if and to the extent that the person applying for State-county special assistance would have been eligible for such assistance notwithstanding ownership of such property or an interest therein.

(b) Any sale, gift, assignment or transfer of real or personal property or an interest therein, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be presumed to have been made for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for State-county special assistance unless the person, or his legal representative, who sells, gives, assigns or transfers the property or interest, receives valuable consideration at least equal to the fair market value, less encumbrances, of the property or interest.

(c) Any person who, by himself or through his legal representative, sells, gives, assigns or transfers real or personal property or an interest therein for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for State-county special assistance, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be ineligible to receive assistance thereafter until an amount equal to the uncompensated value of the property or interest has been expended by or on behalf of such person for maintenance and support, including medical expenses, paid or incurred, or shall be ineligible in accordance with the following schedule, whichever is sooner:

- (1) For uncompensated value of at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) but not more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000), a one-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer;
- (2) For uncompensated value of more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) but not more than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), a two-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer;
- (3) For uncompensated value of more than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), a two-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer, plus one additional month of ineligibility for each five hundred dollar (\$500.00) increment or portion thereof by which the uncompensated value exceeds twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), but in no event to exceed three years.

(d) The sale, gift, assignment or transfer for a consideration less than fair market value, less encumbrances, or any tangible personal property which was acquired with the proceeds of sale, assignment or transfer of real or intangible personal property described in subsection (a) of this section or in exchange for such real or intangible personal property shall be presumed to have been for the purpose of evading the provisions of this section if the acquisition and sale, gift, assignment or transfer of the tangible personal property is by or on behalf of a person receiving State-county special assistance or within one year of making application for such assistance and the consequences of the sale, gift, assignment or transfer of such tangible personal property shall be determined under the provisions of subsections (c), (f) and (g) of this section.

(e) The presumption created by subsections (b) and (d) may be overcome if the person receiving or applying for State-county special assistance, or his legal representative, establishes by the greater weight of the evidence that the sale, gift, assignment or transfer was exclusively for some purpose other than retaining or establishing eligibility for such assistance.

(f) For the purpose of establishing uncompensated value under subsection (c), the value of property or an interest therein shall be the fair market value of the property or interest at the time of the sale, gift, assignment or transfer, less the amount of compensation received for the property or interest, if any. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the fair market value of real property is the most recent property tax value of the property, as ascertained according to Subchapter II of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes. Fair market value for purpose of this subsection shall be such value, determined as above set out, less any legally enforceable encumbrances to which the property is subject.

(g) In the event that there is more than one sale, gift, assignment or transfer of property or an interest therein by a person receiving State-county special assistance or within one year of the date of an application for such assistance,

unless some other time period is mandated by controlling federal law, the uncompensated value for the purposes of subsection (c) shall be the aggregate uncompensated value of all sales, gifts, assignments and transfers. The date which is the midpoint between the date of the first and the last sale, gift, assignment or transfer shall be the date from which the period of ineligibility shall be determined under subsection (c). (1979, c. 585, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 758, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments.— The 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, rewrote this section. Session Laws 1981, c. 758, s. 4, provides: "This act shall become effective October 1, 1981, and shall apply to applications pending on that date except that this act shall not apply

to any transfer of personal property made prior to the date of ratification of this act." The act was ratified July 1, 1981.

Session Laws 1981, c. 758, s. 3, contains a severability clause.

§ 108A-47. Limitations on payments.

No payment of assistance under this Part shall be made for the care of any person in a domiciliary facility which is owned or operated in whole or in part by any of the following:

- (1) A member of the Social Services Commission, of any county board of social services, or of any board of county commissioners;
- (2) An official or employee of the Department or of any county department of social services;
- (3) A spouse of a person designated in subdivisions (1) and (2). (1979, c. 702, s. 10; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 4. Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Payments.

§ 108A-48. State Foster Care Benefits Program.

(a) The Department is authorized to establish a State Foster Care Benefits Program with appropriations by the General Assembly for the purpose of providing assistance to children who are placed in foster care facilities by county departments of social services in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission. Such appropriations, together with county contributions for this purpose, shall be expended to provide for the costs of keeping children in foster care facilities.

(b) No benefits provided by this section shall be granted to any individual who has passed his eighteenth birthday unless he is less than 21 years of age and is a full-time student or has been accepted for enrollment as a full-time student for the next school term pursuing a high school diploma or its equivalent; a course of study at the college level; or a course of vocational or technical training designed to fit him for gainful employment. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-49. Foster care and adoption assistance payments.

(a) Benefits in the form of foster care assistance shall be granted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission to any dependent child who is eligible to receive AFDC but for his or her removal from the home of a specified relative for placement in a foster care facility; provided, that the child's placement and care is the responsibility of a county department of social services.

(b) Adoption assistance payments for certain adoptive children shall be granted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Social Services

Commission to adoptive parents who adopt a child eligible to receive foster care maintenance payments or supplemental security income benefits; provided, that the child cannot be returned to his or her parents; and provided, that the child has special needs which create a financial barrier to adoption.

(c) The Department is authorized to use available federal payments to states under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act for foster care and adoption assistance payments. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-50. State benefits for certain adoptive children.

(a) The Department is authorized to establish a program of State benefits for certain adoptive children from appropriations made by the General Assembly and from grants available from the federal government to the State. This program shall be used exclusively for the purpose of meeting the needs of adoptive children who are physically or mentally handicapped, older, or otherwise hard to place for adoption.

(b) The purpose of this program is to encourage, within the limits of available funds, the adoption of certain hard-to-place children in order to make it possible for children living in, or likely to be placed in foster homes or institutions, to benefit from the stability and security of permanent homes where such children can receive continuous care, guidance, protection and love to reduce the number of such children who might be placed or remain in foster homes or institutions until they become adults.

(c) Eligibility for an adoptive child to receive assistance shall be determined by the Department under the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission.

(d) Financial assistance under this program shall not be provided when the needed services are available free of cost to the adoptive child; or are covered by an insurance policy of the adoptive parents; or are available to the child under the Adoption Assistance Program specified in G.S. 108A-49. (1975, c. 953, s. 3; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 5. Food Stamp Program.

§ 108A-51. Authorization for Food Stamp Program.

The Department is authorized to establish a statewide food stamp program as authorized by the Congress of the United States. The Department of Human Resources is designated as the State agency responsible for the supervision of such programs. The boards of county commissioners through the county departments of social services are held responsible for the administration and operation of the programs. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-52. Determination of eligibility.

Any person who believes that he or another person is eligible to receive food stamps may apply for such assistance to the county department of social services in the county in which the applicant resides. The application shall be made in such form and shall contain such information as the Social Services Commission may require. Upon receipt of an application for food stamps, the county department of social services shall make a prompt evaluation or investigation of the facts alleged in the application in order to determine the applicant's eligibility for such assistance and to obtain such other information as the Department may require. Upon the completion of such investigation, the

county department of social services shall, within a reasonable period of time, determine eligibility. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-53. Fraudulent misrepresentation.

(a) Any person, whether provider or recipient or person representing himself as such, who knowingly obtains or attempts to obtain, or aids or abets any person to obtain by means of making a willfully false statement or representation or by impersonation or by failing to disclose material facts or in any manner not authorized by this Part or the regulations issued pursuant thereto, transfers with intent to defraud any food stamps or authorization cards to which he is not entitled in the amount of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) or less shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Whoever knowingly obtains or attempts to obtain, or aids or abets any person to obtain by means of making a willfully false statement or representation or by impersonation or by failing to disclose material facts or in any manner not authorized by this Part or the regulations issued pursuant thereto, transfers with intent to defraud any food stamps or authorization cards to which he is not entitled in an amount more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00) shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished as in cases of larceny.

(b) Whoever presents, or causes to be presented, food stamps or authorization cards for payment or redemption, knowing the same to have been received, transferred, or used in any manner in violation of the provisions of this Part or the regulations issued pursuant to this Part shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction or plea of guilty shall be fined or imprisoned or both at the discretion of the court.

(c) Whoever receives any food stamps for any consumable item knowing that such food stamps were procured fraudulently under subsections (a) and/or (b) of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction or plea of guilty shall be fined or imprisoned or both at the discretion of the court.

(d) Whoever receives any food stamps for any consumable item whose exchange is prohibited by the United States Department of Agriculture shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction or plea of guilty shall be fined or imprisoned or both at the discretion of the court. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Part 6. Medical Assistance Program.

§ 108A-54. Authorization of Medical Assistance Program.

The Department is authorized and empowered to establish a Medical Assistance Program from federal, State and county appropriations and to adopt rules and regulations under which payments are to be made in accordance with the provisions of this Part. The nonfederal share may be divided between the State and the counties, in a manner consistent with the provisions of the federal Social Security Act, except that the share required from the counties may not exceed the share required from the state. If a portion of the nonfederal share is required from the counties, the boards of county commissioners of the several counties shall levy, impose and collect the taxes required for the special purpose of medical assistance as provided in this Part, in an amount sufficient to cover each county's share of such assistance. (1965, c. 1173, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 24; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Cited in *Hughey v. Cloninger*, 297 N.C. 86, 253 S.E.2d 898 (1979).

§ 108A-55. Payments.

The Department may authorize, within appropriations made for this purpose, payments of all or part of the cost of medical and other remedial care for any eligible person when it is essential to the health and welfare of such person that such care be provided, and when the total resources of such person are not sufficient to provide the necessary care. When determining whether a person has sufficient resources to provide necessary medical care, there shall be excluded from consideration the person's primary place of residence and the land on which it is situated, and in addition there shall be excluded real property contiguous with the person's primary place of residence in which the property tax value is less than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000). Payments shall be made only to intermediate care facilities, hospitals and nursing homes licensed and approved under the laws of the State of North Carolina or under the laws of another state, or to pharmacies, physicians, dentists, optometrists or other providers of health-related services authorized by the Department. Payments may also be made to such fiscal intermediaries and to such prepaid health service contractors as may be authorized by the Department.

Provided, no payments shall be made for the care of any person in a nursing home or intermediate care home which is owned or operated in whole or in part by a member of the Social Services Commission, of any county board of social services, or of any board of county commissioners, or by an official or employee of the Department or of any county department of social services or by a spouse of any such person. (1965, c. 1173, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 435; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 644; 1975, c. 123, ss. 1, 2; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, c. 25; 1979, c. 702, s. 7; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 849, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, added the second sentence.

§ 108A-56. Acceptance of federal grants.

All of the provisions of the federal Social Security Act providing grants to the states for medical assistance are accepted and adopted, and the provisions of this Part shall be liberally construed in relation to such act so that the intent to comply with it shall be made effectual. Nothing in this Part or the regulations made under its authority shall be construed to deprive a recipient of assistance of the right to choose the licensed provider of the care or service made available under this Part within the provisions of the federal Social Security Act. (1965, c. 1173, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-57. Subrogation rights; withholding of information a misdemeanor.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, to the extent of payments under this Part, the State, or the county providing medical assistance benefits, shall be subrogated to all rights of recovery, contractual or otherwise, of the beneficiary of such assistance, or of his personal representative, his heirs, or the administrator or executor of his estate, against any person. It shall be the responsibility of the county attorney or an attorney

retained by the county and/or the State to enforce this section, and said attorney shall be compensated for his services in accordance with the attorneys' fee arrangements approved by the Department. The United States and the State of North Carolina shall be entitled to shares in each net recovery under this section. Their shares shall be promptly paid under this section and their proportionate parts of such sum shall be determined in accordance with the matching formulas in use during the period for which assistance was paid to the recipient.

(b) It shall be a misdemeanor for any person seeking or having obtained assistance under this Part for himself or another to willfully fail to disclose to the county department of social services or its attorney the identity of any person or organization against whom the recipient of assistance has a right of recovery, contractual or otherwise. (1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 1031, s. 1; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1312, ss. 1, 2; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-58. Transfer of property for purposes of qualifying for medical assistance; periods of ineligibility.

(a) Any person, otherwise eligible, who, either while receiving medical assistance benefits or within one year prior to the date of applying for medical assistance benefits, unless some other time period is mandated by controlling federal law, sells, gives, assigns or transfers countable real or personal property or an interest therein, either by himself or through his legal representative, for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for medical assistance benefits, shall be ineligible to receive medical assistance benefits thereafter as set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

Countable real and personal property includes real property, excluding a homesite, intangible personal property, nonessential motor and recreational vehicles, nonincome producing business equipment, boats and motors. The provisions of this act shall not apply to the sale, gift, assignment or transfer of real or personal property if and to the extent that the person applying for medical assistance would have been eligible for such assistance notwithstanding ownership of such property or an interest therein.

(b) Any sale, gift, assignment or transfer of real or personal property or an interest therein, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be presumed to have been made for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for medical assistance benefits unless the person, or his legal representative, who sells, gives, assigns or transfers the property or interest, receives valuable consideration at least equal to the fair market value, less encumbrances, of the property or interest.

(c) Any person who, by himself or through his legal representative, sells, gives, assigns or transfers real or personal property or an interest therein for the purpose of retaining or establishing eligibility for medical assistance benefits, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be ineligible to receive these benefits thereafter until an amount equal to the uncompensated value of the property or interest has been expended by or on behalf of the person for his maintenance and support, including medical expenses, paid or incurred, or shall be ineligible in accordance with the following schedule, whichever is sooner:

- (1) For uncompensated value of at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) but not more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000), a one-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer;
- (2) For uncompensated value of more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) but not more than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), a two-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer;

(3) For uncompensated value of more than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), a two-year period of ineligibility from date of sale, gift, assignment or transfer, plus one additional month of ineligibility for each five hundred dollar (\$500.00) increment or portion thereof by which the uncompensated value exceeds twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000), but in no event to exceed three years.

(d) The sale, gift, assignment or transfer for a consideration less than fair market value, less encumbrances, of any tangible personal property which was acquired with the proceeds of sale, assignment or transfer of real or intangible personal property described in subsection (a) of this section or in exchange for such real or intangible personal property shall be presumed to have been for the purpose of evading the provisions of this section if the acquisition and sale, gift, assignment or transfer of the tangible personal property is by or on behalf of a person receiving medical assistance or within one year of making application for such assistance and the consequences of the sale, gift, assignment or transfer of such tangible personal property shall be determined under the provisions of subsections (c), (f) and (g) of this section.

(e) The presumptions created by subsections (b) and (d) may be overcome if the person receiving or applying for medical assistance, or his legal representative, establishes by the greater weight of the evidence that the sale, gift, assignment or transfer was exclusively for some purpose other than retaining or establishing eligibility for medical assistance benefits.

(f) For the purpose of establishing uncompensated value under subsection (c), the value of property or an interest therein shall be the fair market value of the property or interest at the time of the sale, gift, assignment or transfer, less the amount of compensation, if any, received for the property or interest. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the fair market value of real property is the most recent property tax value of the property, as ascertained according to Subchapter II of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes. Fair market value for purpose of this subsection shall be such value, determined as above set out, less any legally enforceable encumbrances to which the property is subject.

(g) In the event that there is more than one sale, gift, assignment or transfer of property or an interest therein by a person receiving medical assistance or within one year of the date of an application for medical assistance, unless some other time period is mandated by controlling federal law, the uncompensated value, for the purposes of subsection (c), shall be the aggregate uncompensated value of all sales, gifts, assignments and transfers. The date which is the midpoint between the date of the first and last sale, gift, assignment or transfer shall be the date from which the period of ineligibility shall be determined under subsection (c).

(h) This section shall not apply to applicants for or recipients of aid to families with dependent children or to persons entitled to medical assistance by virtue of their eligibility for aid to families with dependent children. (1977, c. 59, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 758, s. 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — Session Laws 1981, c. 758, s. 2, effective October 1, 1981, rewrote the section.

Session Laws 1981, c. 758, s. 4, provides: "This act shall become effective October 1, 1981, and shall apply to applications pending

on that date except that this act shall not apply to any transfer of personal property made prior to the date of ratification of this act." The act was ratified July 1, 1981.

Session Laws 1981, c. 758, s. 3, contains a severability clause.

§ 108A-59. Acceptance of medical assistance constitutes assignment to the State of right to third party benefits; recovery procedure.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, by accepting medical assistance, the recipient shall be deemed to have made an assignment to the State of the right to third party benefits, contractual or otherwise, to which he may be entitled.

It shall be the responsibility of the county attorney of the county from which the medical assistance benefits are received or an attorney retained by that county and/or the State to enforce this subsection, and said attorney shall be compensated for his services in accordance with the attorneys' fee arrangements approved by the Department of Human Resources.

(b) The responsible State agency will establish a third party resources collection unit that is adequate to assure maximum collection of third party resources. (1977, c. 664; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1312, ss. 3-5; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-60. Protection of patient property.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person:

- (1) To willfully commingle or cause or solicit the commingling of the personal funds or moneys of a recipient resident of a provider health care facility with the funds or moneys of such facility; or
- (2) To willfully embezzle, convert, or appropriate or cause or solicit the embezzlement, conversion or appropriation of recipient personal funds or property to his own use or to the use of any provider or other person or entity.

(b) A violation of subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both, in the discretion of the court. A violation of subdivision (a)(2) of this section shall be a Class I felony.

(c) For purposes of this section:

- (1) "Health care facility" shall include skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, rest homes, or any other residential health care facility; and
- (2) "Person" includes any natural person, association, consortium, corporation, body politic, partnership, or other group, entity or organization; and
- (3) "Recipient" shall include current resident recipients, deceased recipients and recipients who no longer reside at such facility. (1979, c. 510, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-61. Financial responsibility of spouse for long-term care patient.

The income and financial resources of the spouse of a person who is admitted after June 30, 1979, as a long-term care patient in a certified public or private intermediate care or skilled nursing facility shall be counted only for 180 consecutive days in determining eligibility for that person for medical assistance under this Part and Title XIX of the Social Security Act. (1979, c. 838; s. 24; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

An action transmittal from the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare provides that all states participating in the Medicaid Program under Section 1902(f) of the Social Security Act must "cease deeming income for any length of time between aged, blind, or disabled Medicaid applicants residing in institutions and their spouses." The basis for this directive is an order entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in a case which is cur-

rently being appealed, this HEW Action Transmittal implementing the court order is binding and controlling as to North Carolina Medicaid policy and regulations. Therefore former § 108-61.4A, pertaining to the same subject matter as this section, could not take effect so long as the aforementioned order stood. See opinion of Attorney General to Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, Secretary of Human Resources, May 30, 1979.

§ 108A-62. Therapeutic leave for medical assistance patients.

Patients at an intermediate care facility or skilled nursing facility may take up to 18 days of therapeutic leave in any 12-month period without the facility losing reimbursement under the medical assistance program. (1979, c. 925; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-63. Medical assistance provider fraud.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any provider of medical assistance under this Part to knowingly and willfully make or cause to be made any false statement or representation of a material fact:

- (1) In any application for payment under this Part, or for use in determining entitlement to such payment; or
- (2) With respect to the conditions or operation of a provider or facility in order that such provider or facility may qualify or remain qualified to provide assistance under this Part.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any provider of medical assistance to knowingly and willfully conceal or fail to disclose any fact or event affecting:

- (1) His initial or continued entitlement to payment under this Part; or
- (2) The amount of payment to which such person is or may be entitled.

(c) Any person who violates a provision of this section shall be guilty of a Class I felony.

(d) "Provider" shall include any person who provides goods or services under this Part and any other person acting as an employee, representative or agent of such person. (1979, c. 510, s. 1; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-64. Medical assistance recipient fraud.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly and willfully and with intent to defraud make or cause to be made a false statement or representation of a material fact in an application for assistance under this Part, or intended for use in determining entitlement to such assistance.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any applicant, recipient or person acting on behalf of such applicant or recipient to knowingly and willfully and with intent to defraud, conceal or fail to disclose any condition, fact or event affecting such applicant's or recipient's initial or continued entitlement to receive assistance under this Part.

- (c) (1) A person who violates a provision of this section shall be guilty of a Class I felony if the value of the assistance wrongfully obtained is more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00).

(2) A person who violates a provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor if the value of the assistance wrongfully obtained is four hundred dollars (\$400.00) or less, and shall be punished by a term of imprisonment of not more than two years or a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.

(d) For purposes of this section the word "person" includes any natural person, association, consortium, corporation, body politic, partnership, or other group, entity or organization. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-65. Conflict of interest.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person who is or has been an officer or employee of State or county government, and as such is or has been responsible for the expenditure of substantial amounts of federal, State or county money under the State medical assistance plan, or any person who is the partner of the present or former officer or employee, to engage in any of the following activities relating to the State medical assistance program:

(1) Knowingly to act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise knowingly to represent, any person other than the United States, the State or a county, in any formal or informal appearance before, or with the intent to influence, make any oral or written communication on behalf of any other person other than the United States, the State or a county to:

a. Any department, agency, court, board, commission, legislature or committee of the United States, the State or a county, or any officer or employee thereof,

b. In connection with any of the following matters in which the United States, the State, or a county is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, such as any judicial or other proceeding, legislation, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other particular matter involving a specific party or parties,

c. In which he participated personally and substantially as an officer or an employee through decision, approval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation or otherwise.

(2) Within two years after his employment has ceased, knowingly to act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise knowingly to represent, any other person other than the United States, the State or a county, in any formal or informal appearance before, or, with the intent to influence, make any oral or written communication on behalf of any other person other than the United States, the State or a county to:

a. Any department, agency, court, board, commission, legislature or committee of the United States, the State, or a county, or any officer or employee thereof,

b. In connection with any of the following matters in which the United States, the State, or a county is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, such as, any judicial or other proceeding, legislation, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other particular matter involving a specific party or parties,

c. Which was actually pending under his official responsibility as an officer or employee within a period of one year prior to the termination of responsibility.

(3) Within two years after his employment has ceased, knowingly to aid, counsel, advise, consult or by personal presence represent any other

person other than the United States, the State or a county in any formal or informal appearance before:

- a. Any department, agency, court, board, commission, legislature or committee of the United States, the State, or the county, or any officer or employee thereof,
- b. In connection with any of the following matters in which the United States, the State, or a county is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, such as, any judicial or other proceeding, legislation, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other particular matter involving a specific party or parties,
- c. Which was actually pending under his official responsibility as an officer or employee within the period of one year prior to the termination of such responsibility.

- (4) To participate personally and substantially as an officer or employee, through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, rendering of advice, investigation or otherwise, in a judicial or other proceeding, legislation, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, charge, accusation, arrest or other particular matter in which, to his knowledge, he, his spouse, minor child, partner, organization in which he is serving as an officer, director, trustee, partner or employee, or any person or organization with whom he is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest.

(b) Violation of this statute is a general misdemeanor.

(c) The Department of Human Resources shall annually identify and designate by rule or regulation those positions which are filled by State or county officers or employees who are responsible for the expenditure of substantial amounts of moneys under the State medical assistance plan. (1981, c. 679, s. 1.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 679, s. 2, makes this section effective October 1, 1981.

§§ 108A-66 to 108A-70: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 3.

Social Services Programs.

§ 108A-71. Authorization of social services programs.

The Department is hereby authorized to accept all grants-in-aid available for programs of social services under the Social Security Act, other federal laws or regulations, State appropriations and other non-federal sources. The Department is designated as the single State agency responsible for administering or supervising the administration of such programs. It is the intent of this Article that programs of social services be administered so that the State and its citizens may benefit fully from any grants-in-aid. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-72. Social services checks payable to decedents.

In the event of the death of a recipient of a cash payment service, any check or checks payable to such recipient but not endorsed prior to such recipient's death shall be returned to the issuing agency, made void, and reissued to the provider of the service. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-73. Services appeals and confidentiality of records.

The provisions of Article 4 on public assistance and social services appeals and confidentiality of records shall be applicable to social services programs authorized under this Article. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§§ 108A-74 to 108A-78: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 4.

Public Assistance and Social Services Appeals and Access to Records.

§ 108A-79. Appeals.

(a) A public assistance applicant or recipient shall have a right to appeal the decision of the county board of social services, county department of social services, or the board of county commissioners granting, denying, terminating, or modifying assistance, or the failure of the county board of social services or county department of social services to act within a reasonable time under the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department. Each applicant or recipient shall be notified in writing of his right to appeal upon denial of his application for assistance and at the time of any subsequent action on his case.

(b) In cases involving termination or modification of assistance, no action shall become effective until 10 workdays after notice of this action and of the right to appeal is mailed or delivered by hand to the recipient; provided, however, termination or modification of assistance may be effective immediately upon the mailing or delivery of notice in the following circumstances:

- (1) When the modification is beneficial to the recipient; or
- (2) When federal regulations permit immediate termination or modification upon mailing or delivery of notice and the Social Services Commission or the Department of Human Resources promulgates regulations adopting said federal law or regulations. When federal and State regulations permit immediate termination or modification, the recipient shall have no right to continued assistance at the present level pending a hearing, as would otherwise be provided by subsection (d) of this section.

(c) The notice of action and the right to appeal shall comply with all applicable federal and State law and regulations; provided, such notice shall, at a minimum contain a clear statement of:

- (1) The action which was or is to be taken;
- (2) The reasons for which this action was or is to be taken;
- (3) The regulations supporting this action;
- (4) The applicant's or recipient's right to both a local and State level hearing, or to a State level hearing in the case of the food stamp program, on the decision to take this action and the method for obtaining these hearings;

- (5) The right to be represented at the hearings by a personal representative, including an attorney obtained at the applicant's or recipient's expense;
- (6) In cases involving termination or modification of assistance, the recipient's right upon timely request to continue receiving assistance at the present level pending an appeal hearing and decision on that hearing.

An applicant or recipient may give notice of appeal by written or oral statement to the county department of social services, which shall record such notice by completing a form developed by the Department.

Such notice of appeal must be given within 60 days from the date of the action, or 90 days from the date of notification in the case of the food stamp program. Failure to give timely notice of appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing. However, it shall not affect the right to reapply for benefits.

(d) If there is such timely appeal in cases not involving disability, in the first instance the hearing shall consist of a local appeal hearing before the county director or a designated representative of the county director, provided whoever hears the local appeal shall not have been involved directly in the initial decision giving rise to the appeal. If there is such timely appeal in cases involving disability, the county director or a designated representative of the county director shall within five days of the request for an appeal forward the request to the Department of Human Resources, and the Department shall designate a hearing officer who shall promptly hold a hearing in the county according to the provisions of subsections (i) and (j) of this section. In cases involving termination or modification of assistance (other than cases of immediate termination or modification of assistance pursuant to subsection (b) (2) of this section), the recipient shall continue to receive assistance at the present level pending the decision at the initial hearing, whether that be the local appeal hearing decision or, in cases involving questions of disability, the Department of Human Resources hearing decision, provided that in order to continue receiving assistance pending the initial hearing decision the recipient must request a hearing on or before the effective date of the termination or modification of assistance.

(e) The local appeal hearing shall be held not more than five days after the request for it is received. The recipient may, for good cause shown as defined by rule or regulation of the Social Services Commission or the Department, petition the county department of social services, in writing, for a delay, but in no event shall the local appeal hearing be held more than 15 days after the receipt of the request for hearing. At the local appeal hearing:

- (1) The appellant and the county department may be represented by personal representatives, including attorneys, obtained at their expense.
- (2) The appellant or his personal representative and the county department shall present such sworn evidence and law or regulations as bear upon the case. The hearing need not be recorded or transcribed, but the director or his representative shall summarize in writing the substance of the hearing.
- (3) The appellant or his personal representative and the county department may cross-examine witnesses and present closing arguments summarizing their views of the case and the law.
- (4) Prior to and during the hearing, the appellant or his personal representative shall have adequate opportunity to examine the contents of his case file for the matter pending together with those portions of other public assistance or social services case files which pertain to the appeal, and all documents and records which the county department of social services intends to use at the hearing. Those portions of the public assistance or social services case file which do not pertain to the appeal or which are required by federal statutes or regulations or by

State statutes or regulations to be held confidential shall not be released to the appellant or his personal representative. In cases where the appellant has been denied access to the public assistance or social services case file the hearing officer shall certify as part of the official record that the hearing officer has examined the case files and that no portion of those files pertain to the appeal. Such certification may be subject to judicial review as provided in subsection (k) of this section. Nothing in this section is intended to restrict an applicant or recipient access to information if that access is allowed by rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to G.S. 108A-80.

(f) The director or his designated representative shall make the decision based upon the evidence presented at the hearing and all applicable regulations, and shall prepare a written statement of his decision citing the regulations and evidence to support it. This written statement of the decision will be served by certified mail on the appellant within five days of the local appeal hearing. If the decision terminating or modifying the appellant's benefits is affirmed, the assistance shall be terminated or modified, not earlier than the date the decision is mailed, and any assistance received during the time of the appeal is subject to recovery.

(g) If the appellant is dissatisfied with the decision of the local appeal hearing, he may within 15 days of the mailing notification of the decision take a further appeal to the Department. However, assistance may not be received pending this further appeal. Failure to give timely notice of further appeal constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing before an official of the Department, but shall not affect the right to reapply for benefits.

(h) Subsections (d)-(g) of this section shall not apply to the food stamp program. The first appeal for a food stamp recipient or his representative shall be to the Department. Pending hearing, the recipient's assistance shall be continued at the present level upon timely request.

(i) If there is an appeal from the local appeal hearing decision, or from a food stamp recipient or his representative where there is no local hearing, or if there is an appeal of a case involving questions of disability the county director shall notify the Department according to its rules and regulations. The Department shall designate a hearing officer who shall promptly hold a de novo administrative hearing in the county after giving reasonable notice of the time and place of such hearing to the appellant and the county department of social services. Such hearing shall be conducted according to applicable federal law and regulations and Article 3, Chapter 150A, of the General Statutes of North Carolina; provided the Department shall adopt rules and regulations to ensure the following:

- (1) Prior to and during the hearing, the appellant or his personal representative shall have adequate opportunity to examine his case file and all documents and records which the county department of social services intends to use at the hearing together with those portions of other public assistance or social services case files which pertain to the appeal. Those portions of the public assistance or social services case files which do not pertain to the appeal or which are required by federal statutes or regulations or by State statutes or regulations to be held confidential shall not be released to the appellant or his personal representative. In cases where the appellant has been denied access to portions of the public assistance or social services case file, the hearing officer shall certify as part of the official record that the hearing officer has examined the case files and that no portion of those files pertain to the appeal. Such certification may be subject to judicial review as provided in subsection (k) of this section. Nothing in this section is intended to restrict an applicant or recipient access to information if that access is allowed by rules or regulations promulgated pursuant to G.S. 108A-80.

- (2) At the appeal hearing, the appellant and personnel of the county department of social services may present such sworn evidence, law and regulations as bear upon the case.
 - (3) The appellant and county department shall have the right to be represented by the person of his choice, including an attorney obtained at his own expense.
 - (4) The appellant and county department shall have the right to cross-examine the other party as well as make a closing argument summarizing his view of the case and the law.
 - (5) The appeal hearing shall be recorded; however, no transcript will be prepared unless a petition for judicial review is filed pursuant to subsection (k) herein, in which case, the transcript will be made a part of the official record. In the absence of the filing of a petition for a judicial review, the recording of the appeal hearing may be erased or otherwise destroyed 180 days after the final decision is mailed.
 - (6) Notwithstanding G.S. 150A-28 or any other provision of State law, discovery shall be no more extensive or formal than that required by federal law and regulations applicable to such hearings.
- (j) After the administrative hearing, the hearing officer shall prepare a proposal for decision, citing pertinent law, regulations, and evidence, which shall be served upon the appellant and the county department of social services or their personal representatives. The appellant and the county department of social services shall have the opportunity to present oral and written arguments in opposition to or in support of the proposal for decision to the designated official of the Department who is to make the final decision. The final decision shall be based on, conform to, and set forth in detail the relevant evidence, pertinent State and federal law and regulations, and matters officially noticed. The decision shall be rendered not more than 90 days, or 45 days in the case of the food stamp program, from the date of request for the hearing, unless the hearing was delayed at the request of the appellant. If the hearing was delayed at the appellant's request, the decision may only be delayed for the length of time the appellant requested a delay. The final decision shall be served upon the appellant and upon the county department of social services by certified mail, with a copy furnished to either party's attorney of record. In the absence of a petition for judicial review filed pursuant to subsection (k) herein, the final decision shall be binding upon the appellant, the county department of social services, the county board of social services, and the board of county commissioners.
- (k) Any appellant or county board of social services or board of county commissioners in the case of the food stamp program who is dissatisfied with the final decision of the Department may file, within 30 days of the receipt of notice of such decision, a petition for judicial review in superior court of the county from which the case arose. The hearing shall be conducted according to the provisions of Article 4, Chapter 150A, of the North Carolina General Statutes. The court shall, on request, examine the evidence excluded at the hearing under G.S. 108A-79(e)(4) or G.S. 108A-79(i)(1) and if the evidence was improperly excluded, the court shall consider it. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the court may take testimony and examine into the facts of the case, including excluded evidence, to determine whether the appellant is entitled to public assistance under federal and State law, and under the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department of Human Resources. Furthermore, the court shall set the matter for hearing within 15 days from the filing of the record under G.S. 150A-47 and after reasonable written notice to the Department of Human Resources and the appellant.
- (l) In the event of conflict between federal law or regulations and State law or regulations, the federal law or regulations shall control. (1937, c. 288, ss. 18, 48; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; cc. 735, 754; 1973, c.

476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, ss. 14-18; 1979, c. 691; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 419, ss. 1-3; c. 420, ss. 1-3.)

Effect of Amendments. — The first 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, rewrote subdivision (4) of subsection (e) and subdivision (1) of subsection (i), added the second sentence of subsection (k) and rewrote the third and fourth sentences of subsection (k).

The second 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, rewrote subsections (b) and (d) and inserted "or if there is an appeal of a case involving questions of disability" in the first sentence of subsection (i).

§ 108A-80. Confidentiality of records.

(a) Except as provided in (b) below, it shall be unlawful for any person to obtain, disclose or use, or to authorize, permit, or acquiesce in the use of any list of names or other information concerning persons applying for or receiving public assistance or social services that may be directly or indirectly derived from the records, files or communications of the Department or the county boards of social services, or county departments of social services or acquired in the course of performing official duties except for the purposes directly connected with the administration of the programs of public assistance and social services in accordance with federal rules and regulations and the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department.

(b) The Department shall furnish a copy of the recipient check register monthly to each county auditor showing a complete list of all recipients of Aid To Families with Dependent Children and State-County Special Assistance for Adults, their addresses, and the amounts of the monthly grants. This register shall be a public record open to public inspection during the regular office hours of the county auditor, but said register or the information contained therein may not be used for any commercial or political purpose. Any violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

(c) Any listing of recipients of benefits under any public assistance or social services program compiled by or used for official purposes by a county board of social services or a county department of social services shall not be used as a mailing list for political purposes. This prohibition shall apply to any list of recipients of benefits of any federal, State, county or mixed public assistance or social services program. Further, this prohibition shall apply to the use of such listing by any person, organization, corporation, or business, including but not limited to public officers or employees of federal, State, county, or other local governments, as a mailing list for political purposes. Any violation of this section shall be punishable as a general misdemeanor.

(d) The Social Services Commission shall have the authority to adopt rules and regulations governing access to case files for social services and public assistance programs, except the Medical Assistance Program. The Secretary of the Department of Human Resources shall have the authority to adopt rules and regulations governing access to medical assistance case files. (1937, c. 288, ss. 18, 48; 1939, c. 395, s. 1; 1957, c. 100, s. 1; 1969, c. 546, s.1; cc. 735, 754; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 19; 1981, c. 275, s. 1; c. 419, s. 4.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, added subsection (d).

CASE NOTES

Test for State Interest Justifying Confidentiality. — In order to justify the application of a confidentiality rule, there must be shown a state interest in confidentiality applicable on

the facts which outweighs the public and individual interests in the particular statements made. *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

§§ 108A-81 to 108A-85: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 5.

Financing of Programs of Public Assistance and Social Services.

§ 108A-86. Financial transactions between the State and counties.

The Secretary shall have the power to promulgate rules and regulations establishing procedures for the counties to follow in financing programs of public assistance and social services under Article 2 and Article 3. (1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-87. Allocation of nonfederal shares.

(a) The nonfederal share of the annual cost of each public assistance and social services program and related administrative costs may be divided between the State and counties as determined by the General Assembly and in a manner consistent with federal laws and regulations.

(b) The nonfederal share of the annual cost of public assistance and social services programs and related administrative costs provided to Indians living on federal reservations held in trust by the United States on their behalf shall be borne entirely by the State. (1965, c. 708; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-88. Determination of State and county financial participation.

Before February 15 of each year, the Secretary shall notify the director of social services of each county of the amount of State and federal moneys estimated to be available, as best can be determined, to that county for programs of public assistance, social services and related administrative costs, as well as the percentage of county participation expected to be required for the budget for the succeeding fiscal year. In odd-numbered years, in making such notification, the Secretary shall notify the counties of any changes in funding levels, formulas, or programs relating to public assistance proposed by the Governor to the General Assembly in the proposed budget and budget report submitted under the Executive Budget Act. Counties shall be notified of additional changes in the proposed budget of the Governor and the Advisory Budget Commission that are made by the General Assembly or the United States Congress subsequent to the February 15 estimates. (1937, c. 288, ss. 9, 21, 39, 51; 1943, c. 505, s. 8; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 1418, s. 1; 1977, c. 1089, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 21; 1979, 2nd Sess., c. 1198; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

CASE NOTES

Determination of Budget by Department of Human Resources As Final and Binding.

— The Department of Human Resources has the power to make a final determination of an

appropriate budget of total county funds that is binding upon the county. *Fracaro v. Priddy*, 514 F. Supp. 191 (M.D.N.C. 1981).

§ 108A-89. State Public Assistance Contingency Loan Program.

(a) The Department is authorized and empowered to establish a program known as the "State Public Assistance Contingency Loan Program." The purpose of this program shall be to make loans available to counties whose actual expenditures, excluding related administrative costs, exceed the estimates for public assistance programs only provided by the Department under G.S. 108A-88.

(b) Loans shall be made to the counties at any time during the fiscal year by the Department, when satisfied of the county's need for such loan under this Article.

(c) A loan provided under this section shall be used by a county only to pay the county share of public assistance costs that exceeds the estimate provided by the Department under G.S. 108A-88 in order to sustain an adequate program of public assistance in that county.

(d) Any amount borrowed by a county from the "State Public Assistance Contingency Fund" during one fiscal year shall be repaid to said fund within the next two fiscal years. (1973, c. 1418, s. 2; 1977, c. 1089, s. 2; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1219, s. 22; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Cross References. — As to withholding of State monies from counties failing to pay public assistance cost, see § 108A-93.

§ 108A-90. Counties to levy taxes.

(a) Whenever the Secretary or his representative assigns a portion of the nonfederal share of public assistance expenses to the counties under the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission or the Department, the board of commissioners of each county shall levy and collect the taxes required to meet the county's share of such expenses.

(b) The board of county commissioners may combine any or all of the separate special taxes for each program of public assistance and for the related administrative costs of such programs in place of levying separate special taxes for each item. This consolidated tax shall be sufficient, when combined with other funds available for use for public assistance expenses from any other source of county income and revenue (including borrowing in anticipation of collection of taxes), to meet the financial requirements of public assistance programs, and the related administrative costs of each program. The appropriations and expenditures for each of the several programs and for related administrative costs shall be separately stated and accounted for. (1937, c. 288, ss. 9, 39; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1971, c. 780, s. 35; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 1418, s. 4; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-91. Appropriations not to revert.

County appropriations for public assistance expenses or related administrative costs shall not lapse or revert, and the unexpended balances may be considered in making further public assistance or administrative appropriations. At any time during the fiscal year, any county may transfer county funds from one public assistance program to another and between programs of public assistance and administration if such action appears to be both necessary and feasible, provided the county secures the approval of the Secretary or his representative. (1953, c. 891; 1967, c. 554; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; c. 1418, s. 5; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-92. State Public Assistance Equalization Program.

The Secretary is authorized and directed to reserve from State appropriations for the programs of public assistance an amount found to be necessary to equalize the burden of taxation in the counties of the State, and to equalize the benefits received by the recipients of public assistance. This amount shall be expended and disbursed solely for the use and benefit of persons eligible for assistance. The amount reserved shall be distributed among the counties according to their needs under a formula approved by the Social Services Commission so as to produce a fair and just distribution. (1937, c. 288, s. 62; 1943, c. 505, s. 11; 1963, c. 551, ss. 1, 2; c. 599, s. 2; 1965, c. 409; 1969, c. 546, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 138; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-93. Withholding of State moneys from counties failing to pay public assistance costs.

The Director of the Budget is authorized to withhold from any county that does not pay its full share of public assistance costs to the state and has not arranged for payment pursuant to G.S. 108-54.1 or G.S. 108A-89, any State moneys appropriated from the General Fund for public assistance and related administrative costs, or to direct the Secretary of Revenue and State Treasurer to withhold any tax owed to a county under Article 7 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes, G.S. 105-113.86, Article 39 of Chapter 105 of the General Statutes or Chapter 1096 of the Session Laws of 1967. The Director of the Budget shall notify the chairman of the board of county commissioners of the proposed action prior to the withholding of funds. (1981, c. 859, s. 16.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 859, s. 98, makes the act effective July 1, 1981. Session Laws 1981, c. 859, s. 97, contains a severability clause.

§§ 108A-94 to 108A-98: Reserved for future codification purposes.

ARTICLE 6.

Protection of the Abused, Neglected or Exploited Disabled Adult Act.

§ 108A-99. Short title.

This Article may be cited as the "Protection of the Abused, Neglected, or Exploited Disabled Adult Act." (1973, c. 1378; s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-100. Legislative intent and purpose.

Determined to protect the increasing number of disabled adults in North Carolina who are abused, neglected, or exploited, the General Assembly enacts this Article to provide protective services for such persons. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s.1.)

§ 108A-101. Definitions.

(a) The word "abuse" means the willful infliction of physical pain, injury or mental anguish, unreasonable confinement, or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services which are necessary to maintain mental and physical health.

(b) The word "caretaker" shall mean an individual who has the responsibility for the care of the disabled adult as a result of family relationship or who has assumed the responsibility for the care of the disabled adult voluntarily or by contract.

(c) The word "director" shall mean the director of the county department of social services or his representative in the county in which the person resides or is present.

(d) The words "disabled adult" shall mean any person 18 years of age or over or any lawfully emancipated minor who is present in the State of North Carolina and who is physically or mentally incapacitated due to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy or autism; organic brain damage caused by advanced age or other physical degeneration in connection therewith; or due to conditions incurred at any age which are the result of accident, organic brain damage, mental or physical illness, or continued consumption or absorption of substances.

(e) A "disabled adult" shall be "in need of protective services" if that person, due to his physical or mental incapacity, is unable to perform or obtain for himself essential services and if that person is without able, responsible, and willing persons to perform or obtain for his essential services.

(f) The words "district court" shall mean the judge of that court.

(g) The word "emergency" refers to a situation where (i) the disabled adult is in substantial danger of death or irreparable harm if protective services are not provided immediately, (ii) the disabled adult is unable to consent to services, (iii) no responsible, able, or willing caretaker is available to consent to emergency services, and (iv) there is insufficient time to utilize procedure provided in G.S. 108A-105.

(h) The words "emergency services" refer to those services necessary to maintain the person's vital functions and without which there is reasonable belief that the person would suffer irreparable harm or death. This may include taking physical custody of the disabled person.

(i) The words "essential services" shall refer to those social, medical, psychiatric, psychological or legal services necessary to safeguard the disabled adult's rights and resources and to maintain the physical or mental well-being of the individual. These services shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of medical care for physical and mental health needs, assistance in personal hygiene, food, clothing, adequately heated and ventilated shelter, protection from health and safety hazards, protection from physical mistreatment, and protection from exploitation. The words "essential services" shall not include taking the person into physical custody without his consent except as provided for in G.S. 108A-106 and in Chapter 122 of the General Statutes.

(j) The word "exploitation" means the illegal or improper use of a disabled adult or his resources for another's profit or advantage.

(k) The word "indigent" shall mean indigent as defined in G.S. 7A-450.

(l) The words "lacks the capacity to consent" shall mean lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate responsible decisions concerning his person, including but not limited to provisions for health or mental health care, food, clothing, or shelter, because of physical or mental incapacity. This may be reasonably determined by the director or he may seek a physician's or psychologist's assistance in making this determination.

(m) The word "neglect" refers to a disabled adult who is either living alone and not able to provide for himself the services which are necessary to maintain his mental or physical health or is not receiving services from his caretaker. A person is not receiving services from his caretaker if, among other things and not by way of limitation, he is a resident of one of the State-owned hospitals for the mentally ill, centers for the mentally retarded or North Carolina Special Care Center he is, in the opinion of the professional staff of that hospital or center, mentally incompetent to give his consent to medical treatment, he has no legal guardian appointed pursuant to Chapter 33, Chapter 35, or guardian as defined in G.S. 122-36(n), and he needs medical treatment.

(n) The words "protective services" shall mean services provided by the State or other government or private organizations or individuals which are necessary to protect the disabled adult from abuse, neglect, or exploitation. They shall consist of evaluation of the need for service and mobilization of essential services on behalf of the disabled adult. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1979, c. 1044, ss. 1-4; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-102. Duty to report; content of report; immunity.

(a) Any person having reasonable cause to believe that a disabled adult is in need of protective services shall report such information to the director.

(b) The report may be made orally or in writing. The report shall include the name and address of the disabled adult; the name and address of the disabled adult's caretaker; the age of the disabled adult; the nature and extent of the disabled adult's injury or condition resulting from abuse or neglect; and other pertinent information.

(c) Anyone who makes a report pursuant to this statute, who testifies in any judicial proceeding arising from the report, or who participates in a required evaluation shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability on account of such report or testimony or participation, unless such person acted in bad faith or with a malicious purpose. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-103. Duty of director upon receiving report.

(a) Any director receiving a report that a disabled adult is in need of protective services shall make a prompt and thorough evaluation to determine whether the disabled adult is in need of protective services and what services are needed. The evaluation shall include a visit to the person and consultation with others having knowledge of the facts of the particular case. After completing the evaluation the director shall make a written report of the case indicating whether he believes protective services are needed and shall notify the individual making the report of his determination as to whether the disabled adult needs protective services.

(b) The staff and physicians of local health departments, mental health clinics, and other public or private agencies shall cooperate fully with the director in the performance of his duties. These duties include immediate accessible evaluations and in-home evaluations where the director deems this necessary.

(c) The director may contract with an agency or private physician for the purpose of providing immediate accessible medical evaluations in the location that the director deems most appropriate. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-104. Provision of protective services with the consent of the person; withdrawal of consent; caretaker refusal.

(a) If the director determines that a disabled adult is in need of protective services, he shall immediately provide or arrange for the provision of protective services, provided that the disabled adult consents.

(b) When a caretaker of a disabled adult who consents to the receipt of protective services refuses to allow the provision of such services to the disabled adult, the director may petition the district court for an order enjoining the caretaker from interfering with the provision of protective services to the disabled adult. The petition must allege specific facts sufficient to show that the disabled adult is in need of protective services and consents to the receipt of protective services and that the caretaker refuses to allow the provision of such services. If the judge finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that the disabled adult is in need of protective services and consents to the receipt of protective services and that the caretaker refuses to allow the provision of such services, he may issue an order enjoining the caretaker from interfering with the provision of protective services to the disabled adult.

(c) If a disabled adult does not consent to the receipt of protective services, or if he withdraws his consent, the services shall not be provided. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-105. Provision of protective services to disabled adults who lack the capacity to consent; hearing, findings, etc.

(a) If the director reasonably determines that a disabled adult is being abused, neglected, or exploited and lacks capacity to consent to protective services, then the director may petition the district court for an order authorizing the provision of protective services. The petition must allege specific facts sufficient to show that the disabled adult is in need of protective services and lacks capacity to consent to them.

(b) The court shall set the case for hearing within 14 days after the filing of the petition. The disabled adult must receive at least five days' notice of the hearing. He has the right to be present and represented by counsel at the hearing. If the person, in the determination of the judge, lacks the capacity to waive the right to counsel, then the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem pursuant to G.S. 1A-1, Rule 17. If the person is indigent, the cost of representation shall be borne by the State.

(c) If, at the hearing, the judge finds by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence that the disabled adult is in need of protective services and lacks capacity to consent to protective services, he may issue an order authorizing the provision of protective services. This order may include the designation of an individual or organization to be responsible for the performing or obtaining of essential services on behalf of the disabled adult or otherwise consenting to protective services in his behalf. Within 60 days from the appointment of such an individual or organization, the court will conduct a review to determine if a petition should be initiated in accordance with Chapter 35, Article 1A, or G.S. 33-7, as appropriate; for good cause shown, the court may extend the 60 day

period for an additional 60 days, at the end of which it shall conduct a review to determine if a petition should be initiated in accordance with Chapter 35, Article 1A, or G.S. 33-7, as appropriate. No disabled adult may be committed to a mental health facility under this Article.

(d) A determination by the court that a person lacks the capacity to consent to protective services under the provisions of this Chapter shall in no way affect incompetency proceedings as set forth in Chapters 33, 35 or 122 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, or any other proceedings, and incompetency proceedings as set forth in Chapters 33, 35, or 122 shall have no conclusive effect upon the question of capacity to consent to protective services as set forth in this Chapter. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1977, c. 725, s. 3; 1979, c. 1044, s. 5; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-106. Emergency intervention; findings by court; limitations; contents of petition; notice of petition; court authorized entry of premises; immunity of petitioner.

(a) Upon petition by the director, a court may order the provision of emergency services to a disabled adult after finding that there is reasonable cause to believe that:

(1) A disabled adult lacks capacity to consent and that he is in need of protective service;

(2) An emergency exists; and

(3) No other person authorized by law or order to give consent for the person is available and willing to arrange for emergency services.

(b) The court shall order only such emergency services as are necessary to remove the conditions creating the emergency. In the event that such services will be needed for more than 14 days, the director shall petition the court in accordance with G.S. 108A-105.

(c) The petition for emergency services shall set forth the name, address, and authority of the petitioner; the name, age and residence of the disabled adult; the nature of the emergency; the nature of the disability if determinable; the proposed emergency services; the petitioner's reasonable belief as to the existence of the conditions set forth in subsection (a) above; and facts showing petitioner's attempts to obtain the disabled adult's consent to the services.

(d) Notice of the filing of such petition, and other relevant information, including the factual basis of the belief that emergency services are needed and a description of the exact services to be rendered, shall be given to the person, to his spouse, or if none, to his adult children or next of kin, to his guardian, if any. Such notice shall be given at least 24 hours prior to the hearing of the petition for emergency intervention; provided, however, that the court may issue immediate emergency order ex parte upon finding as fact (i) that the conditions specified in G.S. 108A-106(a) exist; (ii) that there is likelihood that the disabled adult may suffer irreparable injury or death if such order be delayed; and (iii) that reasonable attempts have been made to locate interested parties and secure from them such services or their consent to petitioner's provision of such service; and such order shall contain a show-cause notice to each person upon whom served directing such person to appear immediately or at any time within 20 days thereafter and show cause, if any exist, for the dissolution or modification of the said order, otherwise same to remain in effect; and copies of the said order together with such other appropriate notices as the court may direct shall be issued and served upon all of the interested parties designated in the first sentence of this subsection.

(e) Where it is necessary to enter a premises without the disabled adult's consent after obtaining a court order in compliance with subsection (a) above, the representative of the petitioner shall do so.

- (f) (1) Upon petition by the director, a court may order that:
- a. The disabled adult's financial records be made available at a certain day and time for inspection by the director or his designated agent; and
 - b. The disabled adult's financial assets be frozen and not withdrawn, spent or transferred without prior order of the court.
- (2) Such an order shall not issue unless the court first finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that:
- a. A disabled adult lacks the capacity to consent and that he is in need of protective services;
 - b. The disabled adult is being financially exploited by his caretaker; and
 - c. No other person is able or willing to arrange for protective services.
- (3) Provided, before any such inspection is done, the caretaker and every financial institution involved shall be given notice and a reasonable opportunity to appear and show good cause why this inspection should not be done. And, provided further, that any order freezing assets shall expire ten days after such inspection is completed, unless the court for good cause shown, extends it.
- (g) No petitioner shall be held liable in any action brought by the disabled adult if the petitioner acted in good faith. (1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-107. Motion in the cause.

Notwithstanding any finding by the court of lack of capacity of the disabled adult to consent, the disabled adult or the individual or organization designated to be responsible for the disabled adult shall have the right to bring a motion in the cause for review of any order issued pursuant to this Article. (1973, c. 1378, s. 1; 1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-108. Payment for essential services.

At the time the director, in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 108A-103 makes an evaluation of the case reported, then it shall be determined, according to regulations set by the Social Services Commission, whether the individual is financially capable of paying for the essential services. If he is, he shall make reimbursement for the costs of providing the needed essential services. If it is determined that he is not financially capable of paying for such essential services, they shall be provided at no cost to the recipient of the services. (1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-109. Reporting abuse.

Upon finding evidence indicating that a person has abused, neglected, or exploited a disabled adult, the director shall notify the district attorney. (1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-110. Funding of protective services.

Any funds appropriated by counties for home health care, boarding home, nursing home, emergency assistance, medical or psychiatric evaluations, and other protective services and for the development and improvement of a system of protective services, including additional staff, may be matched by State and federal funds. Such funds shall be utilized by the county department of social services for the benefit of disabled adults in need of protective services. (1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

§ 108A-111. Adoption of standards.

The Department and the administrative office of the court shall adopt standards and other procedures and guidelines with forms to insure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Article. (1975, c. 797; 1981, c. 275, s. 1.)

Chapter 109.

Bonds.

ARTICLE 1.

Official Bonds.

§ 109-1. Irregularities not to invalidate.

CASE NOTES

Official bonds should be liberally, etc. —

In accord with 1st paragraph in original. See *Town of Scotland Neck v. Western Sur. Co.*, 301 N.C. 331, 271 S.E.2d 501 (1980).

Where a bond is clear and unambiguous

in its language, the terms of the bond cannot be extended. *Town of Scotland Neck v. Western Sur. Co.*, 301 N.C. 331, 271 S.E.2d 501 (1980).

§ 109-3. Condition and terms of official bonds.

CASE NOTES

Stated in *Town of Scotland Neck v. Western Sur. Co.*, 301 N.C. 331, 271 S.E.2d 501 (1980).

ARTICLE 5.

Actions on Bonds.

§ 109-34. Liability and right of action on official bonds.

CASE NOTES

Applied in *Cole v. Cole*, 633 F.2d 1083 (4th Cir. 1980).

Chapter 110. Child Welfare.

Article 1.

Child Labor Regulations.

Sec.
110-1 to 110-20. [Repealed.]

Article 2.

Juvenile Services.

110-22. [Repealed.]
110-23.1. [Repealed.]
110-24. [Repealed.]

Article 5.

Interstate Compact on Juveniles.

110-58 to 110-64. [Repealed.]

Article 5A.

Interstate Parole and Probation Hearing Procedures for Juveniles.

110-64.6 to 110-64.9. [Repealed.]

Article 7.

Day-Care Facilities.

110-91. Mandatory standards for a license.

Article 8.

Child Abuse and Neglect.

110-115 to 110-123. [Repealed.]

Article 9.

Child Support.

Sec.
110-128. Purposes.
110-129. Definitions.
110-130. Action by the designated representatives of the county commissioners.
110-132. Acknowledgment of paternity and agreement to support.
110-133. Agreements of support.
110-134. Filing of affirmations, acknowledgments, agreements and orders; fees.
110-135. Debt to State created.
110-136. Garnishment for enforcement of child-support obligation.
110-136.1. Assignment of wages for child support.
110-137. Acceptance of public assistance constitutes assignment of support rights to the State or county.
110-138. Duty of county to obtain support.
110-138.1. Duty of judicial officials to assist in obtaining support.
110-139. Location of absent parents.
110-141. Effectuation of intent of Article.

ARTICLE 1.

Child Labor Regulations.

§§ 110-1 to 110-20: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 839, s. 2.

Editor's Note. — Repealed §§ 110-1 and 110-9 were amended by Session Laws 1979, c. 657, so as to exempt from those sections minors serving or seeking employment as pages in the General Assembly.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to youth employment, see §§ 95-25.5, 95-25.23.

ARTICLE 2.

Juvenile Services.

§ 110-22: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to conditional release and revocation of conditional release of juveniles, see §§ 7A-655, 7A-656, and 7A-657.

§ **110-23.1:** Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — As to the North Carolina Juvenile Code, see §§ 7A-516 through 7A-732.

§ **110-24:** Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to the requirements for taking juveniles into custody, see §§ 7A-571 through 7A-578.

ARTICLE 3.

Control over Child-Caring Facilities.

Repeal of Article. —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 31, 1981, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

ARTICLE 5.

Interstate Compact on Juveniles.

§§ **110-58 to 110-64:** Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — As to the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, see §§ 7A-684 through 7A-711.

ARTICLE 5A.

Interstate Parole and Probation Hearing Procedures for Juveniles.

§§ **110-64.6 to 110-64.9:** Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to interstate parole and probation hearing

procedures for juveniles, see §§ 7A-706 through 7A-709.

ARTICLE 7.

*Day-Care Facilities.***Repeal of Article.** —

The provision of Session Laws 1977, c. 712, as amended, tentatively repealing this Article effective July 31, 1981, was itself repealed by

Session Laws 1981, c. 932, s. 1.

Cross References. — As to review and evaluation of the programs and functions authorized under this Article, see § 143-34.26.

§ 110-85. Legislative intent and purpose.

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 constitutional law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1326 (1980).

CASE NOTES

Quoted in State, Child Day-Care Licensing Comm'n v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 351, 261 S.E.2d 908 (1980).

§ 110-86. Definitions.

Legal Periodicals. — For a survey of 1977 law on health care regulation, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 857 (1978).

CASE NOTES

Quoted in State, Child Day-Care Licensing Comm'n v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 351, 261 S.E.2d 908 (1980).

§ 110-88. Powers and duties of the Commission.

Legal Periodicals. — For comment on sectarian education and the state, see 1980 Duke L.J. 801.

§ 110-90.1. Qualification for staff in a day-care plan.

Legal Periodicals. — For a survey of 1977 law on health care regulation, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 857 (1978).

§ 110-91. Mandatory standards for a license.

The following standards relating to the health and safety of children shall be complied with by all day-care facilities, except as otherwise provided in this Article. These standards shall be the only required standards for issuance of a license by the Secretary of Administration under policies and procedures of the Commission.

(7) Staff-Child Ratio. — In determining the staff-child ratio, children of the supervisor or other children under 13 years of age shall be included. The Commission shall adopt rules and regulations regarding staff-child ratio, provided, however, that such rules and regulations shall in no event require a ratio of staff members to children more stringent than the following:

- a. For day-care facilities caring for less than 30 children, the ratios shall be as follows:
 - 1. In facilities licensed for six to 10 children, inclusive, one full-time supervising adult with another person who is at least 16 years of age available for emergencies in relief.
 - 2. In facilities licensed for 11 to 20 children, inclusive, there must be one full-time supervising adult and one full-time staff member, one of whom may have responsibility for food preparation.
 - 3. In facilities licensed for 21 to 29 children, inclusive, there must be one full-time supervising adult and two full-time staff members, one of whom may have responsibility for food preparation.

b. For facilities caring for 30 or more children, the ratio shall be as follows:

<i>Ages of Children</i>	<i>No. of Children</i>	<i>Staff Members</i>
0 to 2 years	8	1
2 to 3 years	12	1
3 to 4 years	15	1
4 to 5 years	20	1
5 or more years	25	1

- 1. Children under two years of age in any facility must be kept separate from older children, and with a full-time adult always in attendance.
- 2. Staff members required to be responsible for the care of children shall not have responsibility for food preparation.
- c. To provide for absenteeism and withdrawals without notice, a 20 percent (20%) tolerance shall be allowed as to groups and numbers of children specified in this section and as to the total number for which the facility is licensed, except that no more than 25 children shall be attended by one staff member.
- d. Each facility may care for school age children in after-school hours up to 20 percent (20%) in excess of the number for which it is licensed. However, if there are more than 10 after-school-hour children, an additional staff member must be present to supervise them during their hours at the facility, and there shall be no more than 25 of these children in the care of any one staff member.

(8) Qualifications for Staff. — Each day-care facility shall be under the direction or supervision of a literate person at least 21 years of age. Each staff member employed in a day-care facility supervising children shall be not less than 16 years of age. No person shall be an operator of nor be employed in a day-care facility who has been convicted of a crime involving child neglect, child abuse, or moral turpitude, or who is an habitually excessive user of alcohol or who illegally uses narcotic or other impairing drugs, or who is mentally retarded or mentally ill to an extent that may be injurious to children.

(1971, c. 803, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 128; 1975, c. 879, s. 15; 1977, c. 1011, s. 4; c. 1104; 1979, c. 9, ss. 1, 2.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1979 amendment substituted "who is at least 16 years of age" for "between the ages of 16 and 70 years, inclusive," in paragraph a1 of subdivision (7), and deleted "nor more than 70 years of age" at the end of the second sentence in subdivision (8).

Only Part of Section Set Out. — As only subdivisions (7) and (8) were changed by the amendment, the rest of the section is not set out.

CASE NOTES

Stated in State, Child Day-Care Licensing Comm'n v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 351, 261 S.E.2d 908 (1980).

§ 110-93. Licensing procedure.

CASE NOTES

Stated in State, Child Day-Care Licensing Comm'n v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 351, 261 S.E.2d 908 (1980).

§ 110-102. Information for parents.

Legal Periodicals. — For a survey of 1977 law on health care regulation, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 857 (1978).

§ 110-104. Injunctive relief.

Legal Periodicals. — For a survey of 1977 law on health care regulation, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 857 (1978).

CASE NOTES

Action for Declaratory Judgment Not Barred. — The spirit and intent of this section do not permit, much less compel, a conclusion that the Day-Care Facilities Act is intended to restrict the general statewide jurisdiction of the superior court or to limit the scope of relief normally available in declaratory judgment actions. The mere existence of an alternate adequate remedy under this section will not be held to bar an appropriate action for declaratory judgment. *State, Child Day-Care Licensing Comm'n v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 351, 261 S.E.2d 908 (1980).*

Preliminary injunction serves to place the parties in the position they were before the dispute between them arose. *State v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 731, 265 S.E.2d 387 (1980).*

Defendants' compliance with prelimi-

nary injunction does not moot issues raised by defendants' assertions of constitutional defenses to the State's action. The preliminary injunction requires defendants to comply with the statutory licensing requirements until a final determination can be made on fully developed facts of the ultimate question in the case, i.e., whether the licensing statutes can be constitutionally applied to these defendants. Until such a determination is made the statutes, conceded to be facially valid, are presumably applicable to defendants and defendants must perforce comply with them. *State v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 731, 265 S.E.2d 387 (1980).*

Preliminary injunction under this section is not immediately appealable. *State v. Fayetteville St. Christian School, 299 N.C. 731, 265 S.E.2d 387 (1980).*

ARTICLE 8.

Child Abuse and Neglect.

§§ 110-115 to 110-123: Repealed by Session Laws 1979, c. 815, s. 2, effective January 1, 1980.

Cross References. — For present provisions as to the screening of abuse and neglect complaints, see §§ 7A-542 through 7A-552.

ARTICLE 9.

Child Support.

§ 110-128. Purposes.

The purposes of this Article are to provide for the financial support of dependent children; to provide that public assistance paid to dependent children is a supplement to the support required to be provided by the responsible parent; to provide that the payment of public assistance creates a debt to the State; to provide that the acceptance of public assistance operates as an assignment of the right to child support; to provide for the location of absent parents; to provide for a determination that a responsible parent is able to support his children; and to provide for enforcement of the responsible parent's obligation to furnish support and to provide for the establishment and administration of a program of child support enforcement in North Carolina. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 1.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment substituted "dependent" for "needy" preceding "children" the second time that word appears in this section, inserted "required to be" following "support" near the

beginning of the section and added at the end of the section "and to provide for the establishment and administration of a program of child support enforcement in North Carolina."

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

This Article Provides Statutory Basis for North Carolina Child Support Enforcement Program. — See opinion of Attorney General to Jean Prewitt Bost,

Supervisor, Mecklenburg-Union Counties Child Support Enforcement Unit, 47 N.C.A.G. 45 (1977).

§ 110-129. Definitions.

As used in this Article:

- (3) "Responsible parent" means the natural or adoptive parent of a dependent child who has the legal duty to support said child and includes the father of an illegitimate child.
- (4) "Program" means the Child Support Enforcement Program established and administered pursuant to the provisions of this Article and Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.
- (5) "Designated representative" means any person or agency designated by a board of county commissioners or the Department of Human Resources to administer a program of child support enforcement for a county or region of the State. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, ss. 2, 3.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment deleted, at the end of subdivision (3), "if paternity has been established in a judicial proceeding or if he has acknowledged paternity in open court or by verified written

statement," and added subdivisions (4) and (5).

Only Part of Section Set Out. — As subdivisions (1) and (2) were not changed by the amendment, they are not set out.

§ 110-130. Action by the designated representatives of the county commissioners.

Any county interested in the paternity and/or support of a dependent child may, if the mother, custodian, or guardian of the child neglects to bring such action, institute civil or criminal proceedings against the responsible parent of the child and may take up and pursue any action commenced by the mother, custodian or guardian for the maintenance of the child, including any ancillary action to establish paternity, if she fails to prosecute to final judgment. Such action shall be undertaken by the designated representative in the county where the mother of the child resides or is found, in the county where the father resides or is found, or in the county where the child resides or is found. Any legal proceeding instituted under this section may be based upon information or belief. The parent of the child may be subpoenaed for testimony at the trial of the action to establish the paternity of and/or to obtain support for the child either instituted or taken up by the designated representative of the county commissioners. The husband-wife privilege shall not be grounds for excusing the mother or father from testifying at the trial nor shall said privilege be grounds for the exclusion of confidential communications between husband and wife. If a parent called for examination declines to answer upon the grounds that his testimony may tend to incriminate him, the court may require him to answer in which event he shall not thereafter be prosecuted for any criminal act involved in the conception of the child whose paternity is in issue and/or for whom support is sought, except for perjury committed in this testimony. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 4.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment inserted "or criminal" near the middle of the first sentence and deleted "of

the county commissioners" following "representative" near the beginning of the second sentence.

§ 110-132. Acknowledgment of paternity and agreement to support.

(a) In lieu of or in conclusion of any legal proceeding instituted to establish paternity, the written acknowledgment of paternity executed by the putative father of the dependent child when accompanied by a written affirmation of paternity executed and sworn to by the mother of the dependent child and filed with and approved by a judge of the district court in the county where the mother of the child resides or is found, or in the county where the putative father resides or is found, or in the county where the child resides or is found shall have the same force and effect as a judgment of that court; and a written agreement to support said child by periodic payments, which may include provision for reimbursement for medical expenses incident to the pregnancy and the birth of the child, accrued maintenance and reasonable expense of prosecution of the paternity action, when acknowledged as provided herein, filed with, and approved by a judge of the district court at any time, shall have the same force and effect as an order of support entered by that court, and shall be enforceable and subject to modification in the same manner as is provided by law for orders of the court in such cases. Such written affirmations, acknowledgments and agreements to support shall be sworn to before a cer-

tifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory, or foreign country where the affirmation, acknowledgment, or agreement is made, and shall be binding on the person executing the same whether he is an adult or a minor. Such mother shall not be excused from making such affirmation on the grounds that it may tend to disgrace or incriminate her; nor shall she thereafter be prosecuted for any criminal act involved in the conception of the child as to whose paternity she makes affirmation.

(b) At any time after the filing with the district court of an acknowledgment of paternity, upon the application of any interested party, the court or any judge thereof shall cause a summons signed by him or by the clerk or assistant clerk of superior court, to be issued, requiring the putative father to appear in court at a time and place named therein, to show cause, if any he has, why the court should not enter an order for the support of the child by periodic payments, which order may include provision for reimbursement for medical expenses incident to the pregnancy and the birth of the child, accrued maintenance and reasonable expense of the action under this subsection on the acknowledgment of paternity previously filed with said court. The prior judgment as to paternity shall be *res judicata* as to that issue and shall not be reconsidered by the court. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, ss. 5, 6; 1981, c. 275, s. 8.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment substituted "certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory, or foreign country where the acknowledgment is made" for "clerk or assistant clerk of superior court" in the first sentence of subsection (a), and, in subsection (b), deleted the former second sentence, relating to the case of a child who upon reaching the age of eighteen years is mentally or physically incapable of self-support, and the former fourth sentence, which read "All such payments shall be made through the clerk of superior court and in those cases of dependent children receiving public assistance shall be directed to the North Carolina Department of Human Resources."

The 1981 amendment, effective October 1, 1981, substituted "as provided herein," for "before a certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory, or foreign country where the acknowledgment is made and" near the end of the first sentence of subsection (a), deleted a comma and "retroactively or prospectively, in accordance with the terms of said agreement," following "the same force and effect" near the end of that sentence, and inserted "before a certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory, or foreign country where the affirmation, acknowledgment, or agreement is made," in the second sentence of subsection (a).

CASE NOTES

Standing of County in Action to Modify Support Order. — Where plaintiff mother who receives public assistance under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program assigned to a county her right to receive any support on behalf of her children, the county, by virtue of the assignment pursuant to this section, has an interest in the order for the support

of plaintiff's children. Therefore, under § 50-13.7(a), the county has standing to make a motion in an action between plaintiff mother and defendant father to modify a child support order to require that the support be paid to the county. *Cox v. Cox*, 44 N.C. App. 339, 260 S.E.2d 812 (1979).

§ 110-133. Agreements of support.

In lieu of or in conclusion of any legal proceeding instituted to obtain support for a dependent child from the responsible parent, a written agreement to support said child by periodic payments executed by the responsible parent when acknowledged before a certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory or foreign country

where the acknowledgment is made and filed with and approved by a judge of the district court in the county where the mother of the child resides or is found, or in the county where the father resides or is found, or in the county where the child resides or is found shall have the same force and effect, retroactively and prospectively, in accordance with the terms of said agreement, as an order of support entered by the court, and shall be enforceable and subject to modification in the same manner as is provided by law for orders of the court in such cases. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 7.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment substituted "certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state, territory or foreign country where the acknowledgment is made" for "clerk or assistant clerk of superior court" near the middle of the section, and

deleted the former second sentence, which read "Payments under such agreement shall be made through the clerk of superior court and in those cases of dependent children receiving public assistance shall be directed to the North Carolina Department of Human Resources."

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

The filing fee for a voluntary support agreement set up under this section is \$4.00. Opinion of Attorney General to Mr. J. Donald

Chappell, Controller, Administrative Office of the Courts, Fiscal Management Division, 47 N.C.A.G. 93 (1977).

§ 110-134. Filing of affirmations, acknowledgments, agreements and orders; fees.

All affirmations, acknowledgments, agreements and resulting orders entered into under the provisions of G.S. 110-132 and G.S. 110-133 shall be filed by the clerk of superior court in the county in which they are entered. The filing fee for the institution of an action through the entry of an order under either of these provisions shall be four dollars (\$4.00). (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 8.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment rewrote this section.

§ 110-135. Debt to State created.

Acceptance of public assistance by or on behalf of a dependent child creates a debt, in the amount of public assistance paid, due and owing the State by the responsible parent or parents of the child. Provided, however, that in those cases in which child support was required to be paid incident to a court order during the time of receipt of public assistance, the debt shall be limited to the amount specified in such court order. This liability shall attach only to public assistance granted subsequent to June 30, 1975, and only with respect to the period of time during which public assistance is granted, and only if the responsible parent or parents were financially able to furnish support during this period.

The United States, the State of North Carolina, and any county within the State which has provided public assistance to or on behalf of a dependent child shall be entitled to share in any sum collected under this section, and their proportionate parts of such sum shall be determined in accordance with the matching formulas in use during the period for which assistance was paid.

No action to collect such debt shall be commenced after the expiration of five years subsequent to the receipt of the last grant of public assistance. The

county attorney or an attorney retained by the county and/or State shall represent the State in all proceedings brought under this section. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, ss. 9, 10.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment rewrote the first paragraph and inserted "or an attorney retained by the county and/or State" in the second sentence of the last paragraph.

Legal Periodicals. — For note on a default not constituting an admission of facts for purposes of summary judgment, see 17 Wake Forest L. Rev. 49 (1981).

CASE NOTES

Cited in *Cox v. Cox*, 44 N.C. App. 339, 260 S.E.2d 812 (1979).

§ 110-136. Garnishment for enforcement of child-support obligation.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, in any case in which a responsible parent is under a court order or has entered into a written agreement pursuant to G.S. 110-132 or 110-133 to provide child support, a judge of the district court in the county where the mother of the child resides or is found, or in the county where the father resides or is found, or in the county where the child resides or is found may enter an order of garnishment whereby no more than forty percent (40%) of the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings shall be garnished for the support of his minor child. For purposes of this section, "disposable earnings" is defined as that part of the compensation paid or payable to the responsible parent for personal services, whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonus, or otherwise (including periodic payments pursuant to a pension or retirement program) which remains after the deduction of any amounts required by law to be withheld. The garnishee is the person, firm, association, or corporation by whom the responsible parent is employed.

(b) The mother, father, custodian, or guardian of the child or any designated representative interested in the support of a dependent child may move the court for an order of garnishment. The motion shall be verified and shall state that the responsible parent is under court order or has entered into a written agreement pursuant to G.S. 110-132 or 110-133 to provide child support, that said parent is delinquent in such child support or has been erratic in making child-support payments, the name and address of the employer of the responsible parent, the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings from said employer (which may be based upon information and belief), and the amount sought to be garnished, not to exceed forty percent (40%) of the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings. The motion for the wage garnishment order along with a motion to join the alleged employer as a third-party garnishee defendant shall be served on both the responsible parent and the alleged employer in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 1A-1, Rules of Civil Procedure. The time period for answering or otherwise responding to pleadings, motions and other papers issued pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the time periods set forth in G.S. 1A-1, Rules of Civil Procedure, except that the alleged employer third-party garnishee shall have 10 days from the date of service of process to answer both the motion to join him as a defendant garnishee and the motion for the wage garnishment order.

(b1) In addition to the foregoing method for instituting a continuing wage garnishment proceeding for child support through motion, the mother, father, custodian, or guardian of the child or any designated representative interested

in the support of a dependent child may in an independent proceeding petition the court for an order of continuing wage garnishment. The petition shall be verified and shall state that the responsible parent is under court order or has entered into a written agreement pursuant to G.S. 110-132 or 110-133 to provide child support, that said parent is delinquent in such child support or has been erratic in making child-support payments, the name and address of the alleged-employer garnishee of the responsible parent, the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings from said employer (which may be based on information and belief), and the amount sought to be garnished, not to exceed forty percent (40%) of the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings. The petition shall be served on both the responsible parent and his alleged employer in accordance with the provisions for service of process set forth in G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4. The time period for answering or otherwise responding to process issued pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the time periods set forth in G.S. 1A-1, Rules of Civil Procedure.

(c) Following the hearing held pursuant to this section, the court may enter an order of garnishment not to exceed forty percent (40%) of the responsible parent's monthly disposable earnings. If an order of garnishment is entered, a copy of same shall be served on the responsible parent and the garnishee either personally or by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. The order shall set forth sufficient findings of fact to support the action by the court and the amount to be garnished for each pay period. The order shall be subject to review for modification and dissolution upon the filing of a motion in the cause.

(1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, ss. 11, 12; 1979, c. 386, ss. 1-8.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment substituted "twenty-five percent (25%)" for "twenty percent (20%)" in the first sentence of subsection (a) and in the second sentences of subsections (b) and (c) and substituted "designated representative" for "county" in the first sentence of subsection (b).

The 1979 amendment substituted "forty percent (40%)" for "25 percent (25%)" in the first sentence of subsection (a), rewrote subsec-

tions (b) and (c), and added subsection (b1).

Only Part of Section Set Out. — As subsections (d) and (e) were not changed by the amendment, they are not set out.

Legal Periodicals. — For note on the remedy of garnishment in child support, see 56 N.C.L. Rev. 169 (1978).

For survey of 1978 family law, see 57 N.C.L. Rev. 1084 (1979).

CASE NOTES

Section Does Not Authorize Garnishment of Wages for Alimony. — The exception in the case of child support to the long-standing prohibition against garnishment of wages has not been extended to allow garnishment of wages for alimony. *Phillips v. Phillips*, 34 N.C. App. 612, 239 S.E.2d 743 (1977).

This section does not alter the long-standing rule prohibiting the garnishment of prospective wages for the nonpayment of alimony and other debts. *Elmwood v. Elmwood*, 34 N.C. App. 652, 241 S.E.2d 693 (1977), modified on other grounds, 295 N.C. 168, 244 S.E.2d 668 (1978).

The phrase, "notwithstanding any other provision of the law," would include the exemption provision of § 1-362. *Elmwood v. Elmwood*, 295 N.C. 168, 244 S.E.2d 668 (1978).

Military retirement pay is the equivalent of active duty pay for purposes of gar-

nishment, and active duty pay clearly constitutes wages not subject to garnishment for alimony under North Carolina law. *Phillips v. Phillips*, 34 N.C. App. 612, 239 S.E.2d 743 (1977); *Elmwood v. Elmwood*, 34 N.C. App. 652, 241 S.E.2d 693 (1977), modified on other grounds, 295 N.C. 168, 244 S.E.2d 668 (1978).

And Is Subject to Garnishment for Child Support. — Defendant's military retirement pay for future pay periods was not subject to garnishment except to the extent of 20% thereof for child support pursuant to this section. *Elmwood v. Elmwood*, 295 N.C. 168, 244 S.E.2d 668 (1978) (decided prior to 1977 amendment).

Subsection (c) Contemplates Continuing Order Reaching Future Earnings. — Subsection (c) seems clearly to contemplate the entry of a continuing order of garnishment to enforce a child support order reaching earnings

for future pay periods, thus changing the former law of this State, with reference to the garnishment of, as yet, unaccrued wages. The liability of the garnishee under such an order would, as to future pay periods, be contingent upon the actual accrual of the defendant

employee's earnings in such future pay period. *Elmwood v. Elmwood*, 295 N.C. 168, 244 S.E.2d 668 (1978).

Cited in *Sturgill v. Sturgill*, 49 N.C. App. 578, 272 S.E.2d 423 (1980).

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

A city does not have immunity from garnishment proceedings brought for child support under this section. See opinion of Attorney

General to Mr. Rufus C. Boutwell, Jr., Assistant City Attorney, City of Durham, Oct. 9, 1979.

§ 110-136.1. Assignment of wages for child support.

Pursuant to G.S. 50-13.4(f) (1), the court may require the responsible parent to execute an assignment of wages, salary, or other income due or to become due whenever his employer's voluntary written acceptance of the wage assignment under G.S. 95-31 is filed with the court. Such acceptance remains effective until the employer files an express written revocation with the court. (1981, c. 275, s. 7.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 275, s. 11, makes the act effective October 1, 1981.

§ 110-137. Acceptance of public assistance constitutes assignment of support rights to the State or county.

By accepting public assistance for or on behalf of a dependent child or children, the recipient shall be deemed to have made an assignment to the State or to the county from which such assistance was received of the right to any child support owed for the child or children up to the amount of public assistance paid. The State or county shall be subrogated to the right of the child or children or the person having custody to initiate a support action under this Article and to recover any payments ordered by the court of this or any other state. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 13.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment inserted "to the State or" near the middle of the first sentence and "State or" near the beginning of the second sentence.

CASE NOTES

Cited in *Jolly v. Wright*, 300 N.C. 83, 265 S.E.2d 135 (1980).

§ 110-138. Duty of county to obtain support.

Whenever a county department of social services receives an application for public assistance on behalf of a dependent child, and it shall appear to the satisfaction of the county department that the child has been abandoned by one or both responsible parents, or that the responsible parent(s) has failed to provide support for the child, the county department shall without delay notify the designated representative who shall take appropriate action under this

Article to provide that the parent(s) responsible supports the child. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 14.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment inserted "without delay" and deleted "of the county commissioners" following "representative" near the end of the section.

§ 110-138.1. Duty of judicial officials to assist in obtaining support.

Any party to whom child support has been ordered to be paid, and who has failed to receive the ordered support payments for two consecutive months, may make application to a magistrate for issuance of criminal process against the responsible parent for violation of G.S. 14-322. If the magistrate determines that the applicant has failed to receive the ordered support for two consecutive months, and that the responsible parent has willfully neglected or refused to make such payments, he shall make a finding of probable cause and issue criminal process for violation of G.S. 14-322. It shall be the duty of the District Attorney to prosecute such charges according to law. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of Superior Court to assist the applicant in making such application to the magistrate for the issuance of criminal process, and to supply such necessary child support records as are in his possession to the magistrate, District Attorney, and the Court. (1981, c. 613, s. 4.)

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 613, s. 2, provides: "This act shall apply to all hearings and trials conducted after the date of ratification and shall not affect the validity of any existing order or judgment." The act was ratified June 18, 1981.

§ 110-139. Location of absent parents.

The Department of Human Resources shall attempt to locate absent parents for the purpose of establishing paternity of and/or securing support for dependent children. The Department is to serve as a registry for the receipt of information which directly relates to the identity or location of absent parents, to assist any governmental agency or department in locating an absent parent, to answer interstate inquiries concerning deserting parents, and to develop guidelines for coordinating activities with any governmental department, board, commission, bureau or agency in providing information necessary for the location of absent parents.

In order to carry out the responsibilities imposed under this Article, the Department may request from any governmental department, board, commission, bureau or agency information and assistance. All State, county and city agencies, officers and employees shall cooperate with the Department in the location of parents who have abandoned and deserted children with all pertinent information relative to the location, income and property of such parents, notwithstanding any provision of law making such information confidential. All nonjudicial records maintained by the Department pertaining to child-support enforcement shall be confidential, and only duly authorized representatives of social service agencies, public officials with child-support enforcement and related duties, and members of legislative committees shall have access to these records. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 15.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment inserted "nonjudicial" near the beginning of the last sentence of the second paragraph.

CASE NOTES

Applied in *Bell v. Martin*, 43 N.C. App. 134, 258 S.E.2d 403 (1979).

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Public Officials to Furnish Otherwise Confidential Information Concerning Employees. — State, county, and city officials having custody of personnel records of their respective employees (both past and present) must furnish otherwise confidential locational information concerning these employees to the Department of Human Resources when, at the request of a designated local child support

enforcement program representative, the Department is fulfilling its obligations under this section to locate responsible parents for purposes of establishing and enforcing their child support obligations as levied by Article 9, Chapter 110. See opinion of Attorney General to Mr. Philip Powell, Personnel Director, N.C. Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N.C., 48 N.C.A.G. 2 (1979).

§ 110-141. Effectuation of intent of Article.

The North Carolina Department of Human Resources shall supervise the administration of this program in accordance with federal law and shall cause the provisions of this Article to be effectuated and to secure child support from absent, deserting, abandoning and nonsupporting parents.

In the event that a board of county commissioners does not desire to continue to administer the program it may only so notify the Department of Human Resources between July 1 and September 30 of the current fiscal year. The obligation of the Department to assume responsibility for the administration of the program in that county shall not commence prior to July 1 of the subsequent fiscal year. Until that time, it shall be the responsibility of the board of county commissioners to administer or provide for the administration of the program in the county. (1975, c. 827, s. 1; 1977, 2nd Sess., c. 1186, s. 16; 1979, c. 488.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1977, 2nd Sess., amendment deleted the former second sentence, which read "The Department of Human Resources and a county may negotiate alternative arrangements to the procedure as outlined in G.S. 110-130 for designating a local

agency to administer the provisions of this Article in said county," and added the second paragraph.

The 1979 amendment rewrote the second paragraph.

Chapter 111.

Aid to the Blind.

Article 2.

Aid to the Needy Blind.

Sec.

111-18.1. Award and assistance checks payable to decedents.

Sec.

111-15. Eligibility for relief.

ARTICLE 1.

General Duties of Department of Human Resources.

§ 111-11. Definition of visually handicapped person.

Legal Periodicals. — For survey of 1979 administrative law, see 58 N.C.L. Rev. 1185 (1980).

CASE NOTES

Applicability. — The restrictive definition of “visually handicapped” in this section should not be applied in a manner which limits the meaning of “visual disability” in § 168-1. The narrowly defined term “visually handicapped,” which refers only to persons who are blind or functionally blind, is used solely in connection with those sections of the statute dealing exclusively with problems unique to the type of handicap identified by that term, i.e., §§ 168-4, 168-5 and 168-7. On the other hand, those sections of the statute which address problems common to all handicapped citizens, i.e., §§ 168-2, 168-3, 168-6, 168-8, 168-9, and 168-10, utilize the broadly defined term “handi-

capped person,” which encompasses all persons “with physical, mental and visual disabilities.” Thus, when the statute is read contextually, it is clear that the General Assembly did not intend the narrow definition “visually handicapped” in this section to control the meaning of the term “visual disabilities” in § 168-1; rather, the General Assembly intended that the definition in this section would apply only when the specific term “visually handicapped” was used. *Burgess v. Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co.*, 298 N.C. 520, 259 S.E.2d 248 (1979).

Quoted in *Burgess v. Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co.*, 39 N.C. App. 481, 250 S.E.2d 687 (1979).

ARTICLE 2.

Aid to the Needy Blind.

§ 111-13. Administration of assistance; objective standards for personnel; rules and regulations.

CASE NOTES

Cited in *Hughey v. Cloninger*, 297 N.C. 86, 253 S.E.2d 898 (1979).

§ 111-15. Eligibility for relief.

Blind persons having the following qualifications shall be eligible for relief under the provisions of this Article:

- (1) Whose vision with glasses is insufficient for use in ordinary occupations for which sight is essential; and
- (2) Who are unable to provide for themselves the necessities of life and who have insufficient means for their own support and who have no relative or relatives or other persons in this State able to provide for them who are legally responsible for their maintenance; and
- (3) Who, at the time his application is filed, is living in the State of North Carolina voluntarily with the intention of making his home in the State and not for a temporary purpose.
- (4) Who are not inmates of any charitable or correctional institution of this State or of any county or city thereof: Provided, that an inmate of such charitable institution may be granted a benefit in order to enable such person to maintain himself or herself outside of an institution; and
- (5) Who are not, because of physical or mental condition, in need of continuing institutional care. Provided, that the State agency shall, in determining need, take into consideration any other income and resources of the individual claiming aid to the blind; except that, in making such determination, the State agency shall disregard such earned income as will enable said agency to receive the maximum grants from the federal government for such purpose. (1937, c. 124, s. 4; 1951, c. 319, s. 3; 1961, c. 666, s. 1; 1971, c. 1215, s. 1; 1981, c. 131.)

Effect of Amendments. — The 1981 amendment deleted "are not publicly soliciting alms in any part of the State, and who" between

"Who" and "are not" near the beginning of subdivision (5).

OPINIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Amount of Funds Appropriated Does Not Affect Duty of Department and County Board to Accept All Qualified Blind Applicants. — The requirement upon the Department of Human Resources and the boards of county commissioners of the individual counties to accept all duly qualified and otherwise eligible applicants for special assis-

tance to the blind remains the same and is not reduced or limited by the amount of funds appropriated by a county or by the General Assembly for that specific purpose. See opinion of Attorney General to L. Earl Jennings, Jr., Director, Division of Services for the Blind, Dep't of Human Resources, 49 N.C.A.G. 110 (1980).

§ 111-18.1. Award and assistance checks payable to decedents.

(a) In the event of the death of a recipient of an award made pursuant to G.S. 111-18 during or after the first day of the month for which the award was authorized to be paid, any check or checks in payment of such award made payable to the deceased recipient and not endorsed prior to the payee's death shall be delivered to the clerk of the superior court and be by him administered under the provisions of G.S. 28A-25-6.

(b) In the event of the death of a recipient of a cash payment service, as defined by regulation of the N. C. Commission for the Blind, which service was rendered as a part of a program of public assistance for the blind or visually handicapped, any check or checks issued for the payment of such service made payable to such recipient, but not endorsed prior to his death, shall be returned

Chapter 112. Confederate Homes and Pensions.

Article 1.

Confederate Woman's Home.

Sec.

112-1. [Repealed.]

112-3. [Repealed.]

ARTICLE 1.

Confederate Woman's Home.

§ 112-1: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 462, s. 1, effective July 1, 1981.

Editor's Note. — Session Laws 1981, c. 462, ss. 2, 3 and 7 through 11, provide:

"Sec. 2. The Confederate Woman's Home Association, as incorporated under G.S. 112-1, is hereby dissolved.

"Sec. 3. The State of North Carolina shall be responsible for the total nonfederal share of the cost of care for residents of the Confederate Women's Home who are placed in domiciliary care facilities or nursing home facilities and who may be eligible for State-County Special Assistance for Adults or Medical Assistance under G.S. Chapter 108A.

"Sec. 7. The Board of Directors of the Confederate Women's Home is hereby abolished.

"Sec. 8. The State of North Carolina shall not accept applications for admission to the Confederate Women's Home after July 1, 1981.

"Sec. 9. To the extent necessary for completing the business of the Confederate Woman's Home Association, for disposing of the property of the Association, and for providing for the continued care of the residents, the

powers heretofore vested in the Confederate Woman's Home Association and the Board of Directors of the Confederate Women's Home are hereby vested in the Department of Human Resources. The Secretary of Human Resources shall have the power to adopt, amend, or repeal rules in matters affecting the Confederate Women's Home or its residents from the effective date of this act [July 1, 1981] forward.

"Sec. 10. Title to stocks held by the Confederate Woman's Home Association shall be transferred to the North Carolina Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Such transfer shall occur prior to the dissolution of the Corporation.

"Sec. 11. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3A of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes and G.S. 112-5, the Board of Directors of the Confederate Women's Home is hereby vested with the authority to dispose of the personal property, furnishings, and paintings in the Confederate Women's Home. Such disposition shall occur prior to the abolition of the Board."

§ 112-3: Repealed by Session Laws 1981, c. 462, s. 1, effective July 1, 1981.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Raleigh, North Carolina

October 15, 1981

I, Rufus L. Edmisten, Attorney General of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing 1981 Supplement to the General Statutes of North Carolina was prepared and published by The Michie Company under the supervision of the Department of Justice of the State of North Carolina.

RUFUS L. EDMISTEN
Attorney General of North Carolina

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