



07/01/2013: Please  
see report update  
below.

## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

2001 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2001  
Tel 919-733-4534 • Fax 919-715-4645

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

November 10, 2011

Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

The Honorable Justin Burr, Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
North Carolina House of Representatives  
Room 538, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Honorable Nelson Dollar, Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
North Carolina House of Representatives  
Room 307B1, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Honorable Louis Pate, Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
North Carolina Senate  
Room 406, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Representative Burr, Representative Dollar and Senator Pate:

Session Law 2010-88, SB 1741 directed the Department of Health and Human Services, Divisions of Medical Assistance and Public Health, to study issues that may facilitate dental care and improved dental outcomes for the special needs population. Issues studied shall include at least the following:

- (1) The feasibility and anticipated impact of expanding Medicaid dental services to include reimbursement for evidenced-based topical fluoride treatment and other chemotherapeutic agents used to prevent periodontal disease in high-risk adults with special health care needs.
- (2) The feasibility and anticipated impact of implementing facility code policies that would allow certified providers to bill for each patient seen in a long-term care facility or group home on the date of service.

The final report for this study is due November 15, 2011.

In order to fully examine the feasibility and anticipated impact of expanding preventive dental services (namely, topical fluoride and chemotherapeutic agents to prevent periodontal disease) for Medicaid eligible adult recipients with special health care needs and to evaluate the fiscal impact of different alternatives regarding the implementation of a revised facility code, the Department would like more time to gather data/information from other states which have implemented similar policy initiatives. Mobilizing and seeking valuable input from these parties has required additional time.



Representative Burr, Representative Dollar and Senator Pate:  
November 10, 2011  
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The report will be transmitted on or before February 1, 2012. This extension will allow for careful review and in-depth analysis of the data obtained from the Medicaid and CHIP dental programs in other states and from both internal and external stakeholders. Please direct all questions to Dr. Mark Casey, Division of Medical Assistance Dental Director, at 919-855-4280.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lanier", with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

Lanier M. Cansler

LMC: meb

cc: Michael Watson  
Sharnese Ransome  
Craigan Gray, MD, MBA, JD  
Jeffrey P. Engel, MD  
Jim Slate  
John Dervin  
Pam Kilpatrick  
Lisa Hollowell  
Rennie Hobby  
Patricia Porter



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of Intergovernmental Relations**

Pat McCrory  
Governor

Aldona Z. Wos, M.D.  
Ambassador (Ret.)  
Secretary DHHS

Adam Sholar  
Director

July 1, 2013

The Honorable Justin Burr, Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
Room 307A, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Nelson Dollar, Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
Room 307B1, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Louis Pate, Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee  
on Health and Human Services  
Room 1028, Legislative Building  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

Dear Senator Pate and Representatives Burr and Dollar:

I hope this letter finds you doing well, but I am afraid I write with some disappointing news. After receiving an inquiry from the Fiscal Research Division, which sought a copy of a report on oral health, I have discovered the Department failed to complete and submit that report. Session Law 2010-88 directed the Department of Health and Human Services, Divisions of Medical Assistance and Public Health, to study issues that may facilitate dental care and improve dental outcomes for the special needs population and to report findings and recommendations on or before November 15, 2011. Based on an internal investigation, it seems that members of the previous administration's departmental leadership failed initially to agree on the appropriate content for the report and, instead of resolving that disagreement, elected then not to complete and not to submit the report.

We were disappointed, as I am sure each of you are, to learn of these events. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 919/855-4830 or [Adam.Sholar@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Adam.Sholar@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

Adam Sholar  
Director

Cc: Susan Jacobs  
Pam Kilpatrick  
Patricia Porter  
Sarah Riser  
Denise Thomas  
Kristi Huff  
Brandon Greife

Jim Slate  
Carol Steckel  
Laura Gerald, M.D.

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