

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH50197-LU-8 (12/29)

Short Title: Foster Care Transition Payments.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Glazier and Harrison (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
3 AND HUMAN SERVICES TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM TO RESERVE A
4 DESIGNATED AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME
5 BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE STATE FOR A CHILD IN FOSTER CARE
6 WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THOSE BENEFITS UNDER THE FEDERAL
7 SOCIAL SECURITY ACT TO ASSIST THE CHILD IN TRANSITIONING OUT
8 OF THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM.

9 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

10 **SECTION 1.** Part 4 of Article 2 of Chapter 108A of the General Statutes is
11 amended by adding a new section to read:

12 **"§ 108A-49.1. Foster care transition payments.**

13 (a) The Department shall develop a system to reserve and disburse supplemental
14 security income (SSI) benefits received by the State for children residing in licensed
15 foster care homes in this State who are at least 16 years of age, but younger than the age
16 of 18, and eligible to receive SSI benefits under Title XVI of the federal Social Security
17 Act pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1381. The Department shall reserve an amount, not to
18 exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000), for each child eligible to receive SSI benefits,
19 which sum shall be in lieu of reimbursing the State for care and maintenance of the
20 child in foster care. In determining the amount to be reserved for each child, the
21 Department shall ensure that the sum does not exceed federal SSI resource limits such
22 that the sum would render the child ineligible for SSI benefits.

23 (b) Upon the child's departure from the foster care system, the Department shall
24 pay to the child the sum reserved for that child under subsection (a) of this section. The
25 sum shall be used to assist the child in the child's transition from the foster care system.

26 (c) The Social Services Commission shall adopt rules to implement the
27 provisions of this section."

1 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop
2 the reserve and disbursement system for supplemental security income benefits
3 described in G.S. 108A-49.1, as enacted in Section 1 of this act, on or before July 1,
4 2008.

5 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.