



FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

S.L. 2017-41, Rylan's Law/ Family/Child Protect. & Acc. Act.

**Joint House and Senate Appropriations
Committees on Health and Human Services**

March 20, 2019

S.L. 2017-41: Rylan's Law/Family/Child Protect. & Acc. Act.

Section 1.1 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan for establishing regional offices charged with supervision of administration of social services at the local level. The plan must also identify any necessary legislative and regulatory changes needed to improve regional collaboration among county or regional social services agencies or programs.

Section 1.2(a) establishes the Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group to make recommendations to the Department regarding the regional supervision and collaboration plan.

Sections 1.2.(b), (c), and (e) provides for the composition, subcommittees, and reports of the Working Group.



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Section 1.2(d) sets forth the duties of the Working Group. The Working Group shall develop recommendations regarding:

- The size, number, and location of the regions.
- The allocation of responsibility between the central, regional, and local officials in supervising and administering the programs.
- Methods for holding the regional office accountable.
- Requirements for the regional offices to share information.
- Legislative and regulatory changes necessary to improve collaboration between counties.

The Working Group shall also develop a vision for transitioning the State from a county-administered system to a regionally administered system and shall identify benefits and challenges to doing so.



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Section 2.1.(a) requires The Office of State Budget and Management, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, to develop and issue a request for proposal (RFP), to contract with a third party organization to develop a plan to reform the state supervision and accountability for the social services system, including child welfare, adult protective services and guardianship, public assistance, and child support enforcement ("system reform").

Section 2.1.(b) requires the third party organization to develop a child welfare reform plan that makes specific recommendations.



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Section 2.1.(c) requires the organization in developing the child welfare components of the reform plan to:

- 1) Ensure the plan complies with the federal Child and Family Services Review Program Improvement Plan.
- 2) Consult regularly with the Social Service Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group and offer recommendations as appropriate.
- 3) Review the program for corrective action and offer any recommendations as necessary to align the corrective action program with the child welfare reform plan.



Questions?

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