

1 Whereas, a current comprehensive review and evaluation of our public health
2 delivery system in North Carolina is necessary at this time to assure that the State has an
3 adequate, consistent, accessible, and efficient public health system to meet the public
4 health demands and challenges in this State in the future; Now, therefore,
5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is established the Public Health Study Commission, an
7 independent commission, to study public health services in North Carolina and to
8 recommend improvements that will assure that North Carolina has cost-effective,
9 uniform and consistently administered public health services.

10 Sec. 2. The Commission shall consist of 17 voting and four nonvoting
11 members. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint seven voting
12 members, five of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, one of
13 whom shall be a county commissioner, and one of whom shall be a recipient of public
14 health services. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint seven voting
15 members, five of whom shall be Senators, one of whom shall be a public health director,
16 and one of whom shall be an advocate for low-income people who is familiar with
17 public health services in North Carolina. The Governor shall appoint three voting
18 members, one of whom shall be the Secretary of Human Resources or a designee
19 thereof, one of whom shall be a physician, and one of whom shall be a business
20 representative who is involved in a local Private Industry Council. The Speaker of the
21 House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each
22 appoint two nonvoting members who are involved in the administration or funding of
23 public health services. Initial appointments shall be made within 30 days following
24 adjournment of the 1989 Session of the General Assembly. Vacancies shall be filled by
25 the official who made the initial appointment using the same criteria as provided by this
26 section.

27 Sec. 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the
28 House of Representatives shall each appoint a cochair of the Commission from their
29 appointees. The cochairs shall call the first meeting and preside at alternate meetings.

30 Sec. 4. The Public Health Study Commission shall examine the need for
31 improvement in the statewide public health delivery system through local communities
32 and shall develop legislation to address those needs. If legislation is enacted directing
33 the Department of Human Resources to develop a Public Health Services Plan, the
34 Department may provide status reports on the development of the Plan to the
35 Commission; upon completion of the Plan, the Department shall submit the Plan to the
36 Commission for the Commission's review.

37 Sec. 5. Commission members shall receive subsistence and travel expenses as
38 provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as applicable.

39 Sec. 6. The Commission may solicit, employ, or contract for professional,
40 technical, or clerical assistance, and may purchase or contract for the materials and
41 services it needs. Subject to the approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the
42 professional and clerical staff of the Legislative Services Office shall be available to the
43 Commission, and the Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the
44 Legislative Office Building. With the consent of the Secretary of the Department of

1 Human Resources, staff employed by the Department or any of its divisions may be
2 assigned permanently or temporarily to assist the Commission or its staff.

3 Sec. 7. Upon request of the Commission or its staff, all State departments
4 and agencies and all local government agencies shall furnish the Commission or its staff
5 with any information in their possession or available to them.

6 Sec. 8. The Commission shall submit a final written report of its findings and
7 recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
8 President Pro Tempore of the Senate before or upon the convening of the 1991 Session
9 of the General Assembly. The Commission shall terminate upon the filing of the report.

10 Sec. 9. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General Assembly
11 the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for fiscal year 1989-90 and the sum
12 of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the 1990-91 fiscal year to implement this
13 act.

14 Sec. 10. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.