

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1989**

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**HOUSE BILL 423\***

Short Title: Medicaid/Children.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Duncan; Barnes, Barnhill, Blue, Burke, Colton, Cooper, N. Crawford, Cromer, Cunningham, Easterling, Edwards, B. Ethridge, Fitch, Gardner, Hackney, Hardaway, Holt, Jerals, Jones, Kennedy, Michaux, Nesbitt, Nye, Payne, Robinson, S. Thompson, Walker, Warner, and Wiser.

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Referred to: Human Resources.

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March 2, 1989

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

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2 **AN ACT TO PROVIDE IMPROVED MEDICAID COVERAGE TO CHILDREN**  
3 **UNDER EIGHT, TO EXPAND MEDICAID CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**  
4 **FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH RISKS, AND TO EXPAND**  
5 **INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN FOR THE SPECIAL HEALTH**  
6 **SERVICES PROGRAM.**

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8       Section 1. (a) Effective October 1, 1989, the Department of Human  
9 Resources shall provide Medicaid coverage, to the extent permitted by federal law, for  
10 children born after September 30, 1983, until they reach the age of eight, whose family  
11 income is equal to or less than one hundred percent (100%) of the federal poverty  
12 guidelines, as revised annually by the United States Department of Health and Human  
13 Services. In order to reduce county administrative costs and to expedite the provision of  
14 medical services to children eligible under this section, no resource test shall be applied.

15       (b) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Medical  
16 Assistance, Department of Human Resources, the sum of one million two hundred  
17 sixty-nine thousand nine hundred sixty-five dollars (\$1,269,965) for the 1989-90 fiscal  
18 year and the sum of one million six hundred forty-five thousand nine hundred eight  
19 dollars (\$1,645,908) for the 1990-91 fiscal year, to provide the State costs of providing  
20 the expanded coverage mandated by this section.

1 (c) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Medical  
2 Assistance, Department of Human Resources, the sum of one million one hundred  
3 eighty-four thousand one hundred twenty-two dollars (\$1,184,122) for the 1989-90  
4 fiscal year and the sum of one million one hundred eighty-four thousand one hundred  
5 twenty-two dollars (\$1,184,122) for the 1990-91 fiscal year, to provide the additional  
6 eligibility staff needed to implement this section. These funds shall be allocated among  
7 county departments of social services for the nonfederal costs of employing additional  
8 eligibility personnel needed to implement this section effective July 1, 1989. The  
9 eligibility staff employed by these funds should include staff to be placed at appropriate  
10 outpost locations such as local health departments and hospitals.

11 Sec. 2. (a) Effective January 1, 1990, the Department of Human Resources  
12 shall provide Medicaid coverage, to the extent permitted by federal law, for case  
13 management services for children under the age of eight considered to be at risk for  
14 special health problems, whose family income is equal to or less than one hundred  
15 percent (100%) of the federal poverty guidelines, as revised annually by the United  
16 States Department of Health and Human Services.

17 (b) There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Medical  
18 Assistance, Department of Human Resources, the sum of five hundred twenty-nine  
19 thousand four hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$529,498) for the 1989-90 fiscal year and  
20 the sum of one million fifty-eight thousand nine hundred ninety-five dollars  
21 (\$1,058,995) for the 1990-91 fiscal year, for the State costs in providing the increased  
22 coverage mandated by this section.

23 Sec. 3. (a) Effective January 1, 1990, the Department of Human Resources  
24 shall increase the Children's Special Health Services' eligibility level to one hundred  
25 percent (100%) of the current federal poverty level for inpatient and outpatient services  
26 for children under the age of 21 with special health needs. Services shall be provided to  
27 the extent that resources are available.

28 (b) The Department of Human Resources shall use its savings from the expanded  
29 Medicaid coverage of children under the age of eight mandated by Section 1 of this act  
30 to fund the increased coverage mandated by this section.

31 Sec. 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 1989.