

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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SENATE BILL 293

Short Title: Area Auth./Contract Services.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Ward; Martin of Guilford, Marvin, Plyler, Royall, Tally, and Walker.

Referred to: Human Resources.

March 27, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ALLOW AREA AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE SERVICES UNDER CONTRACT TO CERTAIN ENTITIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 122C-117 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(a1) The area authority may provide services under contract to other governmental or private entities, including Employee Assistance Programs."

Sec. 2. G.S. 122C-146 reads as rewritten:

"§ 122C-146. **Fee for service.**

The area authority and its contractual agencies shall prepare fee schedules for services and shall make every reasonable effort to collect appropriate reimbursement for costs in providing these services from individuals or entities able to pay, including insurance and third-party payment, except that individuals may not be charged for services involving multidisciplinary evaluations, intervention plan development, and case management services provided to eligible infants and toddlers and their families. This exemption from charges does not exempt insurers or other third-party payors from being charged for payment for these services. However, no individual may be refused services because of an inability to pay. All funds collected from fees from area authority operated services shall be used for the fiscal operation or capital improvements of the area authority's programs. The collection of fees by an area authority may not be used as justification for reduction or replacement of the budgeted commitment of local tax revenue."

Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.