

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013**

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**HOUSE BILL 605**

Short Title:    Establish Aging Subcommittee/HHS Oversight. (Public)

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Sponsors:    Representatives Dollar, Burr, Hurley, and Farmer-Butterfield (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.*

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Referred to:    Health and Human Services.

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April 9, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGING OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.(a)** The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services (HHS Oversight Committee) shall appoint a Subcommittee on Aging to examine the State's delivery of services for older persons in order to (i) determine their service needs and (ii) make recommendations to the HHS Oversight Committee on how to address their service needs.

**SECTION 1.(b)** The Subcommittee on Aging shall consist of 19 members, appointed as follows:

(1) Two cochairs appointed as follows:

- a. One member of the House of Representatives who is currently serving on the HHS Oversight Committee, appointed by the House of Representatives cochair of the HHS Oversight Committee.
- b. One member of the Senate who is currently serving on the HHS Oversight Committee, appointed by the Senate cochair of the HHS Oversight Committee.

(2) Seven members appointed by the House of Representatives cochair of the Subcommittee with the following qualifications:

- a. Three members of the House of Representatives designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- b. One licensed physician who is board certified in geriatric medicine.
- c. One representative of AARP North Carolina.
- d. One licensed provider of home care services, as defined in G.S. 131E-136.
- e. One consumer of services for older persons.

(3) Seven members appointed by the Senate cochair of the Subcommittee with the following qualifications:

- a. Three members of the Senate designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- b. One long-term care facility operator.
- c. One representative of the North Carolina Alzheimer's Society.
- d. One licensed provider of hospice care services.



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1 e. One consumer of services for older persons.

2 (4) The Director of the Division on Aging and Adult Services or the Director's  
3 designee.

4 (5) The Director of the Division of Social Services or the Director's designee.

5 (6) The Director of the Division of Medical Assistance or the Director's  
6 designee.

7 **SECTION 1.(c)** Vacancies on the Subcommittee shall be filled by the original  
8 appointing authority. The Subcommittee may meet at any time upon the joint call of the  
9 cochairs. A quorum of the Subcommittee is nine members. No action may be taken except by a  
10 majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

11 The Subcommittee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all  
12 powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The  
13 Subcommittee may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. The  
14 Subcommittee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided by  
15 G.S. 120-32.02.

16 The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer,  
17 shall assign professional staff to assist the Subcommittee in its work. The Senate and House of  
18 Representatives' Directors of Legislative Assistants shall assign clerical staff to the  
19 Subcommittee, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by the  
20 Subcommittee. Members of the Subcommittee shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at  
21 the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

22 **SECTION 1.(d)** As part of its examination, the Subcommittee shall study all of the  
23 following issues:

24 (1) Existing services for older persons and any deficiencies in service array,  
25 quality of services, accessibility, and availability of services.

26 (2) Current and future service needs of older persons, including supports for  
27 older persons residing in institutional and in-home settings.

28 (3) The feasibility of developing mechanisms for allowing older persons to  
29 express the setting in which they prefer to receive services and honoring  
30 these preferences.

31 (4) Existing service definitions for older persons who receive services through  
32 federally funded programs, including Medicaid; through federal block  
33 grants; through State-funded programs; through county-funded programs;  
34 and through other funding sources, as well as the need for additional or  
35 revised service definitions to meet the specific needs of older persons.

36 (5) The adequacy of existing Special Assistance programs in meeting the needs  
37 of older persons residing in institutional, in-home, and community settings.

38 (6) Current accessibility of information, educational materials, and family  
39 resources for older persons, as well as any deficiencies and needed  
40 improvements.

41 (7) Any other matter related to services for older persons and their families.

42 **SECTION 1.(e)** The Subcommittee on Aging shall submit an interim report of its  
43 findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the HHS Oversight  
44 Committee on or before January 15, 2014, and shall submit a final report of its findings and  
45 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the HHS Oversight Committee on or  
46 before January 15, 2015, at which time it shall terminate.

47 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.