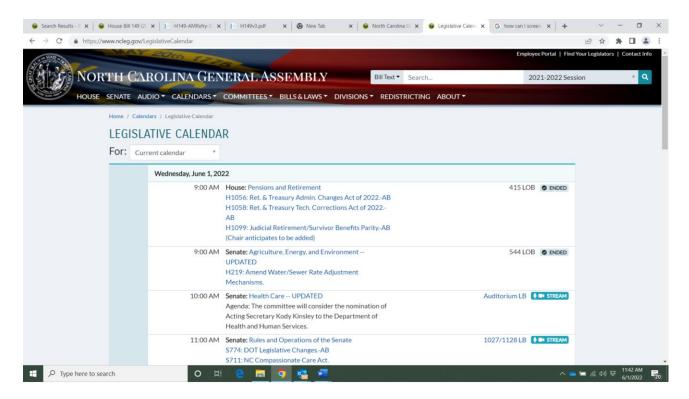


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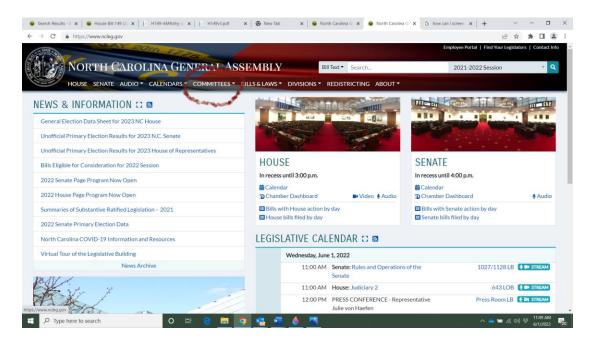
# NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families DATE: June 3, 2022

Because this is a monthly update, it would be incomplete to list upcoming meetings that are listed on the Legislative Calendar that is updated daily. To access the NC General Assembly Legislative Calendar use this <u>link</u>. Below is what the webpage looks like. Note the following:

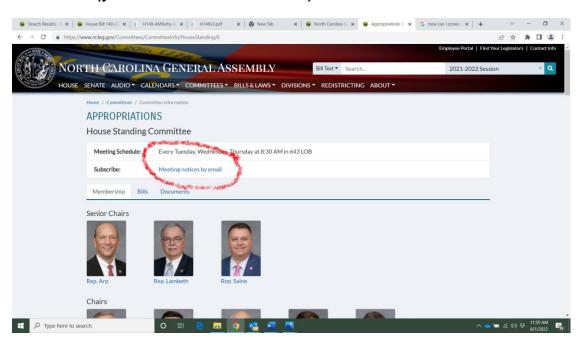
- The Committee, date, time and location (LOB=Legislative Office Building, LB=Legislative Building) are listed.
- The Committee name and legislation they will consider are links.
- The audio/livestream links are on the right side



As a reminder, you can also add yourself to the subscription list for individual legislative committees. Just go to the NCGA <u>website</u> and choose the drop-down box "Committees". Choose the committee you are interested in. (Note: Most committees that meet during a legislative session are considered standing committees and divided by House and Senate. Non-standing, interim and study committees include joint legislative oversight committees that meet when they are not in session.)



Once you get to the Committee, choose "Meeting notices by email" and give the required information (your name and email address). It's free!



## NCGA Short Session is Gearing Up Quickly!

The 2022 Short Session began on May 18<sup>th</sup> and legislators did not waste any time getting started. The upcoming elections are motivation for legislators to quickly get through the business at-hand to get back to their communities. Chances are the budget is either already developed or being developed behind closed doors and it will rapidly make its way through the process to be finalized. Legislators are also using already existing legislation to get bills through the legislative process. Let's take a look at two bills that impact child, youth and family health and human services and are currently being considered.

# H. 149, Expanding Access to Healthcare

You may have heard or read about the Senate leadership supporting legislation that would close the coverage gap, expand Medicaid and address workforce issues. And, you may have been looking for a Senate bill. Instead, the Senate took a House bill on telehealth that had met the crossover deadline and replaced it with a Committee Substitute with the new title, "Expanding Access to Healthcare". The bill has already passed the Senate. By using an existing bill that has already met crossover, the Senate was not delayed on their desire to consider this bill. Since the Senate amended the bill language that was passed by the House, it will go back to the House for negotiations. An agreed upon version must pass both the House and Senate before it can be sent to the Governor for his signature. House Speaker Tim Moore has indicated in recent interviews that it is unlikely that will occur before the Short Session is over. He referenced the need for additional deliberations in the fall—a sign of a potential special session on healthcare.

NC Health Works is the title of the Senate-proposed Medicaid expansion. While the bill does provide the authority for North Carolina to expand Medicaid and take advantage of the federal program, some of the other provisions that are not related to Medicaid expansion are causing dissension.

## Establishing NC Health Works (Begins Section 1.1)

NC Health Works will allow for approximately 600,000 people who currently do not have insurance coverage to qualify for Medicaid and for the State to receive the federal funding to support this expansion of Medicaid.

- 90% of the funding is provided by the federal government. The remaining 10% will be covered through a hospital health advancement assessment and the gross premiums tax. If, at any time, the assessment and tax do not cover the non-federal share of the Medicaid expansion program, it will be discontinued. Additionally, if the federal government no longer provides the 90% share of the funding, the Medicaid expansion program will be discontinued.
- Effective date is written as, "This section is effective six months after the date this act becomes effective or on the date that the work requirements developed under Part II of this act become effective, whichever is later."

## Work Requirements for NC Health Works (Begins Section 2.0)

All individuals who qualify for NC Health Works must fulfill certain work requirements with the following exceptions:

- Individuals who have been certified as unfit for employment for physical or mental health reasons.
- Individuals with a physical, intellectual, or developmental disability that significantly impairs the individual's ability to perform one or more activities of daily living.
- Individuals actively participating in a substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation program.
- Individuals who are the parent or caretaker of a dependent child under 1 year of age.
- Individuals who are a parent or caretaker that provides care for a dependent child with a serious medical condition or disability, to be defined by DHHS.
- Individuals who are receiving unemployment compensation and complying with the work requirements that are part of the federal-State unemployment compensation system.
- Presumptively eligible recipients, during the period of presumptive eligibility.

- Recipients who participate in the North Carolina Health Insurance Premium Payment (NC HIPP) program.
- Individuals who are inmates of prisons.

NC DHHS will submit by 10/1/22 to the federal CMS any State Plan amendments or waivers needed around the work requirements.

#### Other Provisions:

- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Temporary Savings Fund (Begins Section 1.3)
- Hospitals Health Advancement Assessment (Begins Section 1.5)
- Certificate of Need Reform (Begins Section 3.1)
- Modernizing Nursing Regulations (Begins Section 4.1) This language is from the <u>SAVE</u> Act.
- Health Insurance Reforms (Begins Section 5.1)

# H. 755, Parents' Bill of Rights

This bill was originally entitled "Academic Transparency" and was centered around informing the public about instructional materials. It met crossover by passing the House last year. It was this year, when the Senate began consideration of the bill, that it turned into the Parents' Bill of Rights through a committee substitute passed in the Senate Committee on Education/Higher Education. It has now passed the Senate and been sent back to the House for their consideration of the new contents.

The explanation reads that it is "an Act to enumerate the rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education, health care, and mental health of their minor children." The language includes specificity on issues ranging from parental consent and access to medical records, adoption of policies in schools to promote parental involvement, notification of the child's physical and mental health. Perhaps the most controversial provision is around the education of children K-3 on LGBTQ+ issues. Governor Cooper has indicated to news outlets that he has some concerns about the current legislation. This may mean that he will veto it in it's current form.

Shortened versions of the bill have been introduced, including:

H. 1067, Parents Right to Know and Student Welfare, has been introduced in the House. The bill language includes the provision of H. 755 around physical and mental health but does not include many of the provisions around parental consent and instructional content.
H. 1129/S. 860, Parents' Bill of Rights, has been introduced in both the House and Senate. The bill language significantly shortens the language to provide parents options for being more involved in their child's school.

# **Statewide Housing Plan-- Opportunity for Input:**

NC DHHS has released their <u>Strategic Housing Goals</u>, <u>Objectives and Strategies</u> for public comment. Comments are due by June 10, 2022 and should be submitted to <u>tclolmstead.housing@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

#### Resources:

- <u>Project Healthy Minds</u> is a new resource geared toward adolescents and young adults. It includes free 24/7 crisis counseling.
- <u>Hiding in Plain Sight: Youth Mental Illness</u> is a production by Ken Burns that is coming soon to PBS. Watch the trailer now.

#### Bills on the Move:

- H. 144, Medicaid Children and Families Specialty Plan, authorizes NC DHHS to pursue to the Children and Families Specialty Plan (CAF Plan) using the format in the plan that DHHS published, and makes other changes related to Medicaid Transformation. The bill passed the House last year as a teledentistry change and, like several other bills, was gutted in the Senate and replaced with the CAF Plan language. The committee substitute was passed by the Senate Health Care and has been referred to Senate Rules. (Note: the bill listed as the Senate companion bill is the original teledentistry language.)
- <u>H. 615</u>, Juvenile Court Mental Health Assessments, was moved from Senate Rules and referred to Senate Judiciary.
- <u>H. 999</u>, Increase Admin. Rate/Foster Care and Adoption. Introduced on 5/19/22 and referred to Appropriations.
- <u>H. 1007</u>, Authorize Concurrent Juvenile Jurisdiction, extends concurrent juvenile jurisdiction to adolescents living on military bases. Introduced on 5/23/22 and referred to the Homeland Security, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee.
- H. 1032, Sound Basic Education, calling on NCGA to fully fund the Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan. Introduced on 5/24/22 and referred to Rules.
- H. 1059, GREAT Broadband Expansion. Introduced on 5/25/22 and referred to Appropriations.
- <u>H. 1079</u>, Sound Basic Education for Every Child, focused on supporting the training and development of teachers.
- H. 1092/S. 807, Student Mental Health Support Act, creates the School Mental Health Grant program. Introduced on 5/26/22 and referred to Appropriations.
- <u>H. 1094</u>, Funds for Group Foster Care Home/Polk. Introduced on 5/26/22 and referred to Appropriations.
- <u>S. 835</u>, A Sound Basic Education, specifies appropriations to fund the Leandro Plan. Introduced on 5/26/22 and referred to Rules.
- S. 844, Funding for Statewide Mental Health Facility, \$50 million appropriated for a 100-bed facility for adolescents. Introduced on 5/26/22 and referred to Appropriations.
- <u>S. 861</u>, BH Statewide Central Availability Navigator, providing authority to use the statewide BH bed referral system to build the BH SCAN to track bed availability for child behavioral health residential and inpatient services. Introduced on 5/26/22 and referred to Rules.

#### Bills:

- H. 29, Verification of Immigration Status: SAVE
- H. 32, Equity Opportunity Act MET CROSSOVER
- H. 42, 2020 COVID Relief Bill Modifications
- H. 91, Reduce Regulation to Help Children with Autism MET CROSSOVER
- H. 149, Improving Access to Care through Telehealth MET CROSSOVER
- H. 173, Separate Divisions, Juvenile Justice and Adult Corrections—AB (Agency Bill)
- H. 183, Juvenile Court Counselors/Sensitivity Training—AB (Agency Bill) MET CROSSOVER
- H. 192, COVID Response, Supplemental Spending 2020-2021
- H. 205, Abuse & Neglect Resources in Public Schools MET CROSSOVER
- H. 212, Social Services Reform
- H. 215, Early Childhood Data Analytics/Pilot/Guilford
- H. 232, LRC Study Affordable Housing, MET CROSSOVER
- H. 247, Standards of Student Conduct MET CROSSOVER

- H. 249, Children with Disabilities Funding Formula
- H. 261, Raise Min. Age/Juvenile Jurisdiction
- H. 262, Smart Start Funds
- H. 274, 2021 Current Operations Appropriations Act
- H. 277/S. 249, The SAVE Act
- H. 298, 2021 Current Operations Appropriations Act
- H. 300, 2021 Pandemic Recovery Appropriations Act
- H. 305, 2021 Omnibus Coronavirus Relief Act
- H. 313, 2021 Pandemic Recovery Appropriations Act
- H. 314, 2021 Omnibus Coronavirus Relief Act
- H. 325, 2021 Omnibus Coronavirus Relief Act
- H. 382, Hospital ED Care/Medicaid Behavioral Health Service
- H. 389/S. 350, NC Innovations Waiver Act of 2021
- H. 424, Juveniles/Eliminate LWOP/Parole Eligibility
- H. 430, Advisory Council on PANS & PANDAS
- H. 470, Medicaid Expansion
- H. 516, Raise Dropout Age to 18
- H. 568/S. 721, Youth Mentoring Services Act
- H. 579, School Self-Defense Act
- H. 621, Increase Drop Out Age/Completion Indicator MET CROSSOVER
- H. 653, Mental Health and SUD Parity Report
- H. 657, School Safety/Threat Assessment Teams MET CROSSOVER
- H. 658, Deploy Child Welfare & Aging Component/NCFAST
- H. 664, County Service Districts/Early Childhood Education MET CROSSOVER
- H. 665/S. 610, Address Direct Support Staffing Crisis/Medicaid
- H. 732, Peer Support Specialist Certification Act
- H. 747, Merge NC Health Choice & Medicaid
- H. 749, Healthy Students School Psychologists/COVID-19
- H. 809, NC Healthy Family Act
- H. 823, Child Advocacy Centers/Share Information MET CROSSOVER
- H. 837, Increase Student Access to School Counselors
- H. 882, Behavioral Health Services for Students
- H. 908, Access to Affordable Health Care Coverage for All
- H. 914, Support our Direct Care Workforce
- H. 928, Opioid Overdose Prev. Pilot Program/Funds
- H. 934, Student Success Program
- H. 946, Sound Basic Education for Every Child
- H. 947, The GREAT Broadband Expansion Act
- H. 952, Mental Health Unit Triage Pilot Program
- H. 953, Funds for School Mental Health Support Persons
- S. 37, In-Person Learning Choice for Families, ratified, vetoed by Governor on 2/26
- S. 61, Dental Services/Medicaid Transformation
- S. 78, A Safe Return for In-Person Learning
- S. 86, Medicaid Recs/School-Based Health and InCK evaluation/ Child Well-Being Transformation Council Rec
- S. 88, NC FAST Child Welfare Case Mgmt./PED Study
- S. 89, Regional Supervision/Child Well-Being Transformation Council Rec

- <u>S. 90</u>, Social Services Reform/Inter-County Collaboration/Child Well-Being Transformation Council Rec
- S. 93, Assisting NC Families in Crisis
- S. 106, 2021 Appropriations Act
- S. 107, 2021 Appropriations Act
- S. 154, Fully Funded School Social Works and Psychologists
- S. 350/H. 389, NC Innovations Waiver Act of 2021
- S. 402, Close the Medicaid Coverage Gap
- S. 463, Deploy Child Welfare & Aging Component/NCFAST
- S. 501, Create Department of Adult Corrections
- S. 514, Youth Health Protection Act
- S. 515, Health Care Heroes Conscience Protection Act
- S. 518, Protecting and Supporting NC's Children
- S. 530, Medicaid for Twelve Months Postpartum
- S. 593, Special Education Due Process Hearings MET CROSSOVER
- S. 595, Taskforce on Adverse Childhood Experiences
- S. 610/ H. 665, Address Direct Support Staffing Crisis/Medicaid
- S. 615, Direct Care Worker Wage Passthrough/Medicaid
- S. 622, 2021 Governor's Budget
- S. 721/H. 568, Youth Mentoring Services Act

## Bills Signed into Law during 2021 Long Session:

- SL 2021-1: COVID Relief Bill Modifications
- SL 2021-3: 2021 COVID-19 Response and Relief
- SL 2021-4: The Reopen the Schools Act of 2021
- SL 2021-7, Summer Learning Choice for NC Families
- SL 2021-8: Excellent Public Schools Act of 2021
- SL 2021-18: Modify Termination of Parental Rights Appeals
- SL 2021-22: Reduce Regulation to Help Children with Autism
- SL 2021-25: Additional COVID-119 Response and Relief
- SL 2021-61: Medicaid Modernized Hospital Assessments
- SL 2021-62: Medicaid Administrative Changes and Technical Corrections
- SL 2021-77: DHHS Revisions
- SL 2021-88: GSC Technical Corrections 2021
- SL 2021-100: Juvenile Code Rev's/CIP Recommendations—AB (Agency Bill)
- SL 2021-118: Expand Expunction Eligibility
- SL 2021-123: Various Raise the Age Changes/JJAC Recs.
- SL 2021-132: Expedite Child Safety and Permanency
- SL 2021-144: Foster Parents' Bill of Rights
- SL 2021-190: Landlord Submission of HOPE Application