

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2009

SESSION LAW 2009-215

SENATE BILL 311

S311-v-6

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET TO CONTINUE EXPENDITURES FOR THE OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT AT A LEVEL NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE LEVEL AT WHICH THOSE OPERATIONS WERE AUTHORIZED IN S.L. 2008-107, AS AMENDED, UNTIL JULY 15, 2009, AT 11:59 P.M.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

BUDGET CONTINUATION

SECTION 1. The Director of the Budget may continue to allocate funds for expenditure for current operations by State departments, institutions, and agencies at a level not to exceed eighty-five percent (85%) of the level at which those operations were authorized in S.L. 2008-107, as amended.

Vacant positions subject to proposed budget reductions in Senate Bill 202, 3rd edition, Senate Bill 202, 6th edition, or both, shall not be filled after June 30, 2009.

State employees employed in positions subject to elimination in Senate Bill 202, 3rd edition, Senate Bill 202, 6th edition, or both, because of a reduction, in total or in part, in the funds used to support the job or its responsibilities shall, as soon as practicable and in accordance with Reduction in Force policies, be provided written notification of termination of employment 30 days prior to the effective date of the termination.

State agencies shall not make grant awards with funds that are subject to proposed budget reductions in Senate Bill 202, 3rd edition, Senate Bill 202, 6th edition, or both.

Except as otherwise provided by this act, the limitations and directions for the 2008-2009 fiscal year in S.L. 2007-323, as amended, and in S.L. 2008-107, as amended, that applied to appropriations to particular agencies or for particular purposes apply to the funds appropriated and authorized for expenditure under this section.

EMPLOYEE SALARIES

SECTION 2. The salary schedules and specific salaries established for the 2008-2009 fiscal year by or under S.L. 2008-107 and in effect on June 30, 2009, for offices and positions shall remain in effect until the effective date of the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009.

State employees subject to G.S. 7A-102(c), 7A-171.1, or 20-187.3 shall not move up on salary schedules or receive automatic increases, including automatic step increases, until authorized by the General Assembly.

Public school employees paid on the teacher salary schedule or the school-based administrator salary schedule and other employees shall not move up on salary schedules or receive automatic step increases, annual, performance, merit, or other increments until authorized by the General Assembly.

SALARY-RELATED CONTRIBUTIONS/EMPLOYER

SECTION 3.(a) The State's employer contribution rates budgeted for retirement and related benefits for the 2009-2010 fiscal year shall be as provided for in Section 6(b) of S.L. 2009-16.

SECTION 3.(b) The State's employer contribution rates established by this section are effective until the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of

2009 becomes law and are subject to revision in that act. If the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009 modifies these rates, the Director of the Budget
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shall further modify the rates set in that act for the remainder of the 2009-2010 fiscal year so as to compensate for the different amount contributed between July 1, 2009, and the date the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009 becomes law so that the effective rates for the entire year reflect the rates set in the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009.

FUNDS SHALL NOT REVERT

SECTION 4.(a) If the provisions of Senate Bill 202, 3rd edition, Senate Bill 202, 6th edition, or both, direct that funds shall not revert, the funds shall not revert on June 30, 2009. Unless these funds are encumbered on or before June 30, 2009, these funds shall not be expended after June 30, 2009, except as provided by a law enacted after June 30, 2009.

SECTION 4.(b) This section becomes effective June 30, 2009.

STATE CONTROLLER SHALL NOT TRANSFER FUNDS ON JUNE 30

SECTION 5.(a) Notwithstanding G.S. 143-15.3A, for the 2008-2009 fiscal year only, funds shall not be reserved to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account, and the State Controller shall not transfer funds from the unreserved credit balance to the Repairs and Renovations Reserve Account on June 30, 2009.

SECTION 5.(b) Notwithstanding G.S. 143-15.2 and G.S. 143-15.3, for the 2008-2009 fiscal year only, funds shall not be reserved to the Savings Reserve Account, and the State Controller shall not transfer funds from the unreserved credit balance to the Savings Reserve Account on June 30, 2009.

SECTION 5.(c) This section becomes effective June 30, 2009.

APPROPRIATION OF ARRA FUNDS

SECTION 6.(a) Appropriation Funds. – Funds received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5 (ARRA), are hereby appropriated in the amounts provided in the notification of award from the federal government or any entity acting on behalf of the federal government to administer federal ARRA funds. The Office of State Budget and Management and affected State agencies shall report the notification of award to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

SECTION 6.(b) Limitation of Use of Funds. – State agencies shall not allocate or otherwise obligate any ARRA funds appropriated in this act (i) for a purpose or program not authorized by the General Assembly for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, or (ii) to expand the scope of a purpose or program authorized by the General Assembly for the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium, unless the federal government has issued rules or formal guidance stipulating that a state's lack of allocation or obligation would jeopardize the receipt of ARRA funds.

SECTION 6.(c) Guidance. – The Office of State Budget and Management shall work with the recipient State agencies to budget federal receipts awarded according to the annual program needs and within the parameters of the respective granting entities and to incorporate federal funds into the certified budgets of the recipient State agency. State agencies shall not use federal ARRA funds for recurring purposes unless provided for in this section. However, depending on the nature of the award, additional State personnel may be employed on a temporary or time-limited basis.

SECTION 6.(d) Of the funds appropriated in subsection (a) of this section, the State Office of Economic Investment and Recovery may use up to one million dollars

(\$1,000,000) during fiscal year 2009-2010 for operating expenses.

SECTION 6.(e) Effective Date. – This section is effective when it becomes law.

APPROPRIATION FROM THE SAVINGS RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR 2008-2009

SECTION 7.(a) G.S. 143C-4-2(b) prohibits the Director of the Budget from using funds in the Savings Reserve Account unless the use has been approved by an act of the General Assembly. The General Assembly hereby authorizes the Director of the Budget to use funds that were credited to the Savings Reserve Account on or before June 30, 2009, to the extent necessary to balance the State budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, and funds are hereby appropriated from the Savings Reserve Account for this purpose.

SECTION 7.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law.

MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENTS

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SECTION 8. To achieve the proposed budget reductions for the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium, the Department of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit the necessary State Plan amendments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that reflect the Medicaid reduction items in Senate Bill 202, 3rd edition, Senate Bill 202, 6th edition, or both. The Department shall amend or withdraw any unnecessary State Plan amendments when reductions enacted in the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Appropriations Act of 2009 become law.

ACCELERATED DHHS PROCUREMENT PROCESS TO ACHIEVE BUDGET REDUCTIONS

SECTION 8A.(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Human Services may modify or extend existing contracts or as necessary enter into sole source contracts to timely achieve savings. Any such modifications or contract extensions or sole source contracts must be approved by the Governor and reported to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Office of State Budget and Management. This subsection applies to the following activities and shall expire six months from the date of enactment of this act:

- (1) Acquisition of medical equipment, supplies, and appliances;
- (2) Maximizing technology to increase third-party recovery, increase cost avoidance activities, identify provider overbilling and other abuse or program integrity activities;
- (3) Implementing prior authorization efforts in imaging and other high-cost services;
- (4) Providing technical assistance to enhance care coordination, analysis, and reports to assess provider compliance and performance;
- (5) Conducting independent assessments; and
- (6) Providing technology services to establish physician/provider online attestation reporting and assist CCNC in care management activities.

SECTION 8A.(b) The Department shall report on the activities conducted under this section to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division on or before April 1, 2010.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION INCREASE

SECTION 9.(a) The in-state tuition rate for community college students shall be

fifty dollars (\$50.00) per credit hour. The out-of-state tuition rate shall be \$241.30 per credit hour.

SECTION 9.(b) The fees charged for community college continuing education courses shall be based on the number of hours of class time. The fees shall be:

Class Hours Cost

1-24 \$65.00;

25-50 \$120.00;

51+ \$175.00.

SECTION 9.(c) This section expires December 31, 2009.

EFFECTIVE DATE

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SECTION 10. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2009, and expires July 15, 2009, at 11:59 P.M.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 30th day of June, 2009.

s/ Walter H. Dalton

President of the Senate

s/ Joe Hackney

Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Beverly E. Perdue

Governor

Approved 5:30 p.m. this 30th day of June, 2009