



# HOUSE BILL 981: State as a Model Employer/IDD.

2017-2018 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Health	<b>Date:</b>	June 5, 2018
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Bradford, Dollar, Lambeth, Sauls	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Theresa Matula
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Legislative Analyst

**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 981 requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), in consultation with the Office of State Human Resources (OSHR), to study the development and implementation of a statewide program that establishes the State as a model employer in the employment of individuals with disabilities and report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1, 2018. The bill is a recommendation from the Joint Legislative Research Commission, Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S762, as introduced by Sens. Lee, Barringer, Edwards, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

### BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 981 requires DHHS, in consultation with the OSHR, to study the development and implementation of a comprehensive, statewide program that establishes the State as a model employer in the employment of individuals with disabilities. The goals of the program are as follows:

- Increasing disability inclusion and access to State agency employment.
- Specifically targeting an increase in the employment by State agencies of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Demonstrating to local government and private sector employers the viability and effectiveness of employing individuals with disabilities.

As part of the study, DHHS and OSHR are required to examine existing programs in other states and consider the feasibility of implementing a comprehensive program in North Carolina that contains a number of specified components.

By December 1, 2018, DHHS, in consultation with OSHR, must submit a report on the results of the study and any legislative recommendations to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill would become effective when it becomes law.

**BACKGROUND:** The bill is a recommendation from the Joint Legislative Research Commission, Committee on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

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