

# Report to the NC General Assembly

## Study for Students with Extraordinary Costs House Bill 259 (SL 2023-134)

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# Study Requirements

- Method of improving options for private placement in Approved Schools
- Method of determining placement in Approved School is appropriate
- Extraordinary costs incurred by PSUs for private placement
- Method of creating a network of Approved Schools
- Method of prioritizing dispersal of funds to assist with costs
- Recommendations on the proportion of costs to be paid from local, State and federal sources
- Method to monitor overidentification of children with disabilities with intensive needs
- Methods to allow for Medicaid reimbursements
- Estimated range of costs with implementing the studied methods
- Advisability of pilot programs with Approved Schools

# Current Information Responsive to Study Requirements

- The OEC has a non-public program approval process in which private schools may voluntarily choose to have its exceptional children program monitored, approved, and listed in directory as an Approved School.
- Overidentification of students with intensive needs is monitored through a variety of mechanisms by the OEC and reported to the US Office of Special Education Programs in NC's State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report.
- There are several federal regulations that govern the placement of students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment by the individualized education program (IEP) team.

# Recommendations

- Fully initiate the study in January/February 2024.
- Provide the NC SBE an updated report for discussion in October 2024 and decision in November/December 2024.
- Provide an updated report to the NCGA by January 15, 2025.

# Questions?