

**§ 143-127.1. Parental liability for payment of cost of care for long-term patients in Department of Health and Human Services facilities.**

(a) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of G.S. 143-117 through 143-127 inclusive, the natural or adoptive parents of persons who are non-Medicaid, long-term patients at facilities owned or operated by the Department of Health and Human Services shall only be liable on the charges made by such facility for treatment, care and maintenance for an amount not to exceed the cost of caring for a normal child at home as determined from standard sources by the Department of Health and Human Services.

(b) Parents or adoptive parents of a patient in a facility owned or operated by the Department of Health and Human Services shall not be liable for any charges made by such facility for treatment, care and maintenance of such a patient incurred or accrued subsequent to such patient attaining age 18.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "long-term patient" is defined as a person who has been a patient in a facility owned or operated by the Department of Health and Human Services for a continuous period in excess of 120 days. No absence of a patient from the facility due to a temporary or trial visit shall be counted as interrupting the accrual of the 120 days herein required to attain the status of a long-term patient.

(d) Repealed by Session Laws 1993, c. 386, s. 2. (1971, c. 218, s. 1; 1973, c. 476, s. 133; c. 775; 1975, c. 19, s. 48; 1979, c. 838, ss. 25-27; 1983, c. 12; 1983 (Reg. Sess., 1984), c. 1116, s. 82; 1987, c. 738, s. 68; 1993, c. 386, s. 2; 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a).)