

§ 7A-498.1. Purpose.

Whenever a person is determined to be indigent and entitled to counsel, it is the responsibility of the State under the federal and state constitutions to provide that person with counsel and the other necessary expenses of representation. The purpose of this Article is to:

- (1) Enhance oversight of the delivery of counsel and related services provided at State expense;
- (2) Improve the quality of representation and ensure the independence of counsel;
- (3) Establish uniform policies and procedures for the delivery of services;
- (4) Generate reliable statistical information in order to evaluate the services provided and funds expended; and
- (5) Deliver services in the most efficient and cost-effective manner without sacrificing quality representation. (2000-144, s. 1.)