

Popular Government

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Cover Article

4 Helping Local Governments View Child Care as Economic Development

Nam Douglass

A recent study found that North Carolina's child care industry has a total economic impact of \$7.5 billion. That and other study findings reported in this article underscore the importance of viewing child care as a critical component of the state's economic infrastructure.

Feature Articles

15 Do North Carolina Local Governments Need Home Rule?

Frayda S. Bluestein

North Carolina local governments do not have home rule. A School specialist in local government law explores whether they would be better off if they did have it.



25 Determining Whether a Worker Is an Independent Contractor or an Employee

Diane M. Juffras

Few hiring relationships meet the legal test for independent contractor status. If you misclassify workers as independent contractors, you may incur significant liabilities. Several factors are central to determining employee or independent contractor status.



35 Searching for Cost-Effectiveness in Emergency Medical Services

Douglas J. Watson and Floun'say R. Caver

Financial pressures led three local governments and a county-supported hospital in Lee County, Alabama, to study more cost-effective ways of providing emergency medical services. The results may be of value to North Carolina counties with similar demographics and circumstances.



Departments

2 NC Journal

New Program Evaluation Workshops Offered • Expanded Leadership Programs for Local Government Boards

3 At the School

Smith Named Vice Chancellor • Drennan to Direct New Judicial College • Brannon Retires • Vogt Retires • Behind the Scenes at the School of Government • Smith Recognized for Teaching Excellence • School Welcomes New Faculty Members • Pervine Is 2006–2007 Wicker Scholar • Teaching North Carolina Government

ON THE COVER: Employees take pleasure in building a playground adjacent to their workplace.