

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE BILL 225*

Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 3/17/99

Short Title: Ass't Principal Provisional Cert./AB.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 4, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING CERTIFICATION AND
EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-284(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) The State Board of Education shall have entire control of certifying all applicants for supervisory and professional positions in all public elementary and high schools of North Carolina; and it shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the renewal and extension of all certificates, and shall determine and fix the salary for each grade and type of certificate which it authorizes. The State Board of Education shall require each applicant for an initial certificate or graduate certificate, other than an applicant who is qualified under Article 19A of this Chapter, to demonstrate his academic and professional preparation by achieving a prescribed minimum score at least equivalent to that required by the Board on November 30, 1972, on a standard examination appropriate and adequate for that purpose. If the Board shall specify the National Teachers Examination for this purpose, the required minimum score shall not be lower than that which the Board required on November 30, 1972. The Board may not require an applicant who is qualified under Article 19A of this Chapter to take an additional exam to demonstrate

1 academic competence. The Board shall not issue provisional certificates for ~~principals and~~
2 ~~assistant principals~~ principals.

3 The Board shall issue a one-year provisional assistant principal's certificate only if (i)
4 the local board finds that there is a shortage of persons who hold or are
5 qualified to hold a principal's certificate, and (ii) the employee enrolls in an approved
6 program leading to a masters degree in school administration during that year. The
7 Board shall extend the provisional certificate for a total of no more than two additional
8 years while the employee is completing the program."

9 Section 2. G.S. 115C-289(b) reads as rewritten:

10 "(b) All persons employed as assistant principals in State-allotted positions, or as
11 assistant principals in full-time positions regardless of funding source, in the public
12 schools of the State or in schools receiving public funds, shall, in addition to other
13 applicable requirements, be required either to hold or be qualified to hold a principal's
14 certificate or a provisional assistant principal's certificate in compliance with applicable
15 law and in accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education. It shall be
16 unlawful for any board of education to employ or keep in service any assistant principal
17 who neither holds nor is qualified to hold a principal's certificate or a provisional
18 assistant principal's certificate in compliance with applicable law and in accordance with
19 the regulations of the State Board of Education. Persons who hold a provisional assistant
20 principal's certificate shall be employed under G.S. 115C-287.1(h)."

21 Section 3. G.S. 115C-287.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

22 "(h) Individuals who hold a provisional assistant principal's certificate under G.S.
23 115C-284(c) shall be considered school administrators for purposes of this section.
24 Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a local board may enter into one-year
25 contracts with a school administrator who holds a provisional assistant principal's
26 certificate. If the school administrator held career status as a teacher in the local school
27 administrative unit prior to receiving a provisional assistant principal's certificate, and the
28 State Board does not extend the school administrator's provisional assistant principal's
29 certificate for any reason, the school administrator shall retain career status as a teacher
30 unless the school administrator voluntarily relinquished that right or is dismissed or
31 demoted under G.S. 115C-325. Nothing in this subsection or G.S. 115C-284(c) shall be
32 construed to require a local board to extend or renew the contract of a school
33 administrator who holds a provisional assistant principal's certificate."

34 Section 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.