

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2001**

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**SENATE BILL 812**

Short Title: Study Tuition Status/Certain Immigrant Students. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Martin of Guilford; Albertson, Dalton, Garrou, Gulley,  
Kinnaird, Lee, Lucas, and Wellons.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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April 3, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION ON TUITION  
2 RATES FOR CERTAIN NONCITIZEN IMMIGRANT STUDENTS ENROLLED  
3 IN THE STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
4 SYSTEM.  
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** There is created the Legislative Study Commission on  
8 Tuition Rates for Certain Noncitizen Immigrant Students Enrolled in the State  
9 University System or the Community Colleges System. The purpose of the  
10 Commission is to review State law pertaining to tuition rates for noncitizen immigrant  
11 students and to consider the feasibility of extending in-State tuition status to those  
12 students.

13 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Commission shall consist of 14 members, seven  
14 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at least four of  
15 whom shall be members of the House of Representatives, and seven members appointed  
16 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, at least four of whom shall be members of  
17 the Senate. The public members appointed by the Speaker and the President Pro  
18 Tempore shall be such persons as have experience with the State University System, the  
19 Community Colleges System, or noncitizen immigrant students and the issues critical to  
20 those students. The Speaker shall designate one Representative as cochair and the  
21 President Pro Tempore shall designate one Senator as cochair. Vacancies on the  
22 Commission shall be filled by the same appointing authority as made the initial  
23 appointment. The Commission shall expire upon delivering its final report.

24 The Commission, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all  
25 powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The  
26 Commission may meet at any time upon the joint call of the cochairs. The Commission  
27 may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building. The

1 Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services as provided  
2 by G.S. 120-32.02.

3 The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services  
4 Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist the Commission in its work. The House  
5 of Representatives' and the Senate's Supervisors of Clerks shall assign clerical staff to  
6 the Commission, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be borne by  
7 the Commission. Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel  
8 expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6, as appropriate.

9 **SECTION 1.(c)** In conducting the study, the Commission shall consider the  
10 following:

- 11 (1) Whether it is feasible to grant in-State tuition status to noncitizen  
12 immigrant students who graduated from high school in North Carolina  
13 and who attended school in this State at least two consecutive  
14 academic years.
- 15 (2) If feasible, the conditions under which in-State tuition status should be  
16 granted.
- 17 (3) Relevant State and federal laws and State and federal constitutional  
18 provisions that may affect this goal.

19 **SECTION 2.** The Legislative Study Commission on Tuition Rates for  
20 Certain Noncitizen Immigrant Students Enrolled in the State University System or the  
21 Community Colleges System may make an interim report to the 2001 General  
22 Assembly not later than the convening of the 2001 General Assembly, 2002 Regular  
23 Session, and shall make its final report to the 2003 General Assembly upon its  
24 convening.

25 **SECTION 3.** The constituent institutions of The University of North  
26 Carolina, the community colleges in the Community Colleges System, and the  
27 Department of Public Instruction shall cooperate with the Commission in its study.

28 **SECTION 4.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General  
29 Assembly the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the 2001-2002 fiscal year and  
30 the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the 2002-2003 fiscal year to carry out  
31 the purposes of this act.

32 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.