

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

H.B. 751  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40400-MK-47A (01/19)

Short Title: Career and College Ready/High School Grads. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blackwell, Horn, and Johnson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL STUDENTS WHO RECEIVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA  
3 ENDORSEMENT TO DEMONSTRATE A CERTAIN LEVEL OF READING  
4 ACHIEVEMENT.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-12(40) reads as rewritten:

7 "(40) To Establish High School Diploma Endorsements. – The State Board of  
8 Education shall establish, implement, and determine the impact of adding (i)  
9 college, (ii) career, and (iii) college and career endorsements to high school  
10 diplomas to encourage students to obtain requisite job skills necessary for  
11 that student to be successful in a wide range of high-quality careers and to  
12 reduce the need for remedial education in institutions of higher education.  
13 These endorsements shall reflect courses completed, overall grade point  
14 average, reading achievement, and other criteria as developed by the State  
15 Board of Education. For the purposes of awarding any of the high school  
16 diploma endorsements, the State Board shall require students to have  
17 received on a nationally norm-referenced college admissions test for reading,  
18 either administered under G.S. 115C-174.11(c)(4) or as an alternative  
19 nationally norm-referenced college admissions test approved by the State  
20 Board, at least the benchmark score established by the testing organization  
21 that represents the level of achievement required for students to have  
22 approximately a fifty percent (50%) chance of obtaining a grade B or higher  
23 or a seventy-five percent (75%) chance of obtaining a grade C or higher in a  
24 corresponding credit-bearing first-year college course. A student may retake  
25 a nationally norm-referenced test as many times as necessary to achieve the  
26 required benchmark score for reading in order to receive a high school  
27 diploma endorsement prior to the student's exit from high school. The State  
28 Board of Education shall report annually to the Joint Legislative Education  
29 Oversight Committee on (i) the impact of awarding these endorsements on  
30 high school graduation, college acceptance and remediation, and post-high  
31 school employment ~~rates-rates~~, (ii) the number of students who had to retake  
32 a nationally norm-referenced college admissions test to meet the reading  
33 benchmark score required by this subdivision, and (iii) the number of  
34 students who were not awarded a high school diploma endorsement solely  
35 because of the inability to meet the benchmark score for reading as required  
36 by this subdivision."



1           **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
2 high school diploma endorsements awarded in the 2018-2019 school year.