

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 23
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/2/23
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 5/3/23

Short Title: Education Studies and Other Changes.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 30, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO STUDY VARIOUS EDUCATION ISSUES AND MAKE OTHER CHANGES
TO EDUCATION LAWS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. REVISE MYFUTURENC EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GOAL REPORTING

SECTION 1. Section 1(c) of S.L. 2019-55 reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 1.(c) Beginning ~~September 1, 2020~~, March 15, 2024, and every ~~September 1~~
March 15 thereafter, the myFutureNC Commission, which is a statewide commission focusing
on postsecondary educational attainment in North Carolina, shall report to the General Assembly,
as provided by G.S. 120-29.5, and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on
the progress of the State reaching the postsecondary attainment goal set forth in G.S. 116C-10,
as enacted by this act, and activities by the Commission to further North Carolina towards the
postsecondary attainment goal."

PART II. STUDY FOR STUDENTS WITH EXTRAORDINARY COSTS/REPORT

SECTION 2. As used in this section, "Approved School" means a private school
with approved nonpublic education programs providing special education for students with
intensive needs. The Department of Public Instruction shall study the following and report any
legislative recommendations based on the outcomes of the study to the House Appropriations
Committee on Education, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education,
and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 15, 2023:

- (1) A method of improving options for children with disabilities with intensive needs which require private placement in an Approved School consistent with the student's individualized education program (IEP).
- (2) A method of determining that placement in an Approved School is the means that most appropriately suits the child's individual needs.
- (3) Extraordinary costs incurred by the public school unit by student placement in Approved Schools.
- (4) Methods of creating a network of Approved Schools into which a child with disabilities with intensive needs may be placed consistent with the student's IEP.
- (5) A method of prioritizing dispersal of funds to public school units to assist with the cost associated with enrolling in an Approved School in early grades to



1 incentivize public school units to enroll students in the Approved Schools at
2 the earliest appropriate age.

3 (6) Recommendations on the proportion of a student's extraordinary cost to be
4 paid from local, State, and federal sources, respectively, and to identify
5 existing funds at each level that may be available for the purposes studied
6 pursuant to this section.

7 (7) A method to monitor overidentification of children with disabilities with
8 intensive needs.

9 (8) Methods to allow for Medicaid reimbursement for additional services, such as
10 transportation, and expanding the eligible age range to receive reimbursement
11 for services.

12 (9) An estimated range of costs associated with implementing the studied
13 methods.

14 (10) The advisability of one or more pilot programs with one or more Approved
15 Schools.
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17 **PART III. REVISE NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPAL FELLOWS COMMISSION** 18 **MEMBERSHIP**

19 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 116-74.41 reads as rewritten:

20 **"§ 116-74.41. North Carolina Principal Fellows Commission established; membership.**

21 (a) There is established the North Carolina Principal Fellows Commission. The
22 Commission shall exercise its powers and duties independently in its administration of the North
23 Carolina Principal Fellows Program in accordance with this Article. The Director of the Program
24 shall staff the Commission in accordance with G.S. 116-74.49. The State Education Assistance
25 Authority as created in G.S. 116-203 shall be responsible for awarding grants upon selection of
26 the recipients by the Commission in accordance with G.S. 116-74.46 and executing agreements
27 for forgivable scholarship loans, cancelling through service, collecting, and otherwise enforcing
28 the agreements under G.S. 116-74.48.

29 (a1) Repealed by Session Laws 2018-5, s. 10A.3(a), effective July 1, 2018.

30 (b) The Commission shall consist of ~~15~~16 members appointed as follows:

31 (1) One member of the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina
32 appointed by the chair of that board, notwithstanding G.S. 116-7(b).

33 (2) One member of the State Board of Education appointed by the State Board
34 chair.

35 (3) One dean of a school of education appointed by the President of The
36 University of North Carolina.

37 (3a) One dean of a school of education appointed by the President of the North
38 Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

39 (4) One public school teacher appointed by the General Assembly upon the
40 recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

41 (5) One public school principal appointed by the General Assembly upon the
42 recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

43 (6) A local superintendent chosen by the State Superintendent of Public
44 Instruction.

45 (7) One member to represent business and industry appointed by the Governor.

46 (8) One local school board member appointed by the chair of the State Board of
47 Education.

48 (9) One human resources expert from the private sector appointed by the State
49 Superintendent of Public Instruction.

50 (10) The chair of the Board of the State Education Assistance Authority, or the
51 chair's designee.

- 1 (11) The director of the Program. The director shall chair the Commission.
2 (12) The Executive Director of the North Carolina Principals and Assistant
3 Principals' Association or his or her designee.
4 (13) The President of the Personnel Administrators of North Carolina or his or her
5 designee.
6 (14) The President and Chief Executive Officer of North Carolina Business
7 Leaders for Education (BEST NC) or his or her designee.
8 (15) The President of the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities,
9 or his or her designee.

10 (c) All appointments to the Commission shall be for four-year terms.

11 (d) Except as otherwise provided, if a vacancy occurs in the membership, the appointing
12 authority shall appoint another person to serve for the balance of the unexpired term. In the
13 discretion of the appointing authority, a State Board of Education member or a member of the
14 Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina may complete a term on the
15 Commission after the member's appointment from the appointing board has expired.

16 (e) Commission members shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowances in
17 accordance with G.S. 138-5 or G.S. 138-6, as appropriate.

18 (f) The initial meeting of the Commission shall be called by the member of the Board of
19 Governors of The University of North Carolina appointed under subdivision (1) of subsection
20 (b) of this section and the director shall be appointed by the Commission at the initial meeting.
21 Thereafter, the Commission shall meet regularly, at times and places deemed necessary by the
22 chair."

23 **SECTION 3.(b)** The new member of the North Carolina Principal Fellows
24 Commission, created in accordance with G.S. 116-74.41(b)(15), as enacted by this section, shall
25 begin his or her term on July 1, 2023.
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27 **PART IV. CLARIFICATION ON CURRICULUM**

28 **SECTION 4.** The Beaufort County Board of Education in implementing the standard
29 course of study, as established by Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, may use the
30 Hillsdale College K-12 Curriculum to the extent that Curriculum does not conflict with
31 requirements of the standard course of study.
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33 **PART V. RAISE THE DAILY DEPOSIT LIMIT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

34 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 115C-445 reads as rewritten:

35 "**§ 115C-445. Daily deposits.**

36 Except as otherwise provided by law, all moneys collected or received by an officer,
37 employee or agent of a local school administrative unit or an individual school shall be deposited
38 in accordance with this section. Each officer, employee and agent of a local school administrative
39 unit or individual school whose duty it is to collect or receive any taxes or other moneys shall
40 deposit his collections and receipts daily. If the board of education gives its approval, deposits
41 shall be required only when the moneys on hand amount to as much as ~~two hundred fifty dollars~~
42 ~~(\$250.00), one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500),~~ but in any event a deposit shall be made
43 on the last business day of the month. All deposits shall be made with the finance officer or in an
44 official depository. Deposits in an official depository shall be immediately reported to the finance
45 officer or individual school treasurer by means of a duplicate deposit ticket. The finance officer
46 may at any time audit the accounts of any officer, employee or agent collecting or receiving any
47 taxes or other moneys, and may prescribe the form and detail of these accounts. The accounts of
48 such an officer, employee or agent shall be audited at least annually."
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50 **PART VI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

51 **SECTION 6.** This act is effective when it becomes law.