

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 1436
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/24/99

Short Title: Textbook Commission Changes/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 29, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXPAND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE NORTH CAROLINA
TEXTBOOK COMMISSION AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT
PURPOSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-87 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-87. Appointment of Textbook Commission.

Shortly after assuming office, the Governor shall appoint a Textbook Commission of
~~14-23~~ members who shall hold office for four years, or until their successors are
appointed and qualified. The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the
Governor upon recommendation of the Superintendent. Six of these members shall be
teachers or principals in ~~the elementary grades;~~ grades K-5; five shall be teachers or
principals in ~~the high school grades;~~ one shall be a superintendent of a local school
administrative unit; grades 6-8; four shall be superintendents, teachers, or principals in
grades 9-12; ~~one~~ three shall be ~~the parent of an elementary student, grades K-6,~~ parents of
students in grades K-5 at the time of appointment; ~~and one shall be the parent of a high
school student, grades 7-12,~~ three shall be parents of students in grades 6-8 at the time of
~~appointment.~~ appointment; and two shall be parents of students in grades 9-12 at the time
of appointment. The Governor shall fill all vacancies by appointment for the unexpired

1 term. The Commission shall elect a chairman, subject to the approval of the
2 Superintendent. The Commission shall meet four times a year or at the call of the chair.
3 The members shall be entitled to compensation for each day spent on the work of the
4 Commission as approved by the Board and to reimbursement for travel and subsistence
5 expense incurred in the performance of their duties at the rates specified in G.S. 138-5(a).
6 ~~Such compensation~~ Compensation shall be paid from funds available to the State Board of
7 Education."

8 Section 2. G.S. 115C-88 reads as rewritten:

9 "**§ 115C-88. Commission to evaluate textbooks offered for adoption.**

10 (a) ~~The members of the Commission who are teachers, principals or the parent of~~
11 ~~students~~ Commission shall evaluate all textbooks offered for adoption.

12 Each proposed textbook shall be read by at least one expert in the discipline for which
13 the textbook would be used. The Commission may use external experts if no commission
14 member or advisory committee member qualifies as an expert in a particular discipline.

15 The Commission may consider any review of a proposed textbook by other experts
16 not involved in the textbook adoption process. However, these reviews may not
17 substitute for the direct examination of the proposed textbook by a Commission member,
18 an advisory committee member, or any other expert retained by the Commission.

19 (b) Each member shall examine carefully and file a written evaluation of each
20 ~~textbook offered for adoption~~ proposed textbook for which the member is responsible.

21 The evaluation report shall give special consideration to the suitability of the textbook
22 to the instructional level for which it is offered, the content or subject matter, whether the
23 textbook is aligned with the Standard Course of Study, and other criteria prescribed by
24 the Board.

25 Each evaluation report shall be signed by the member making the report and filed
26 with the Board not later than a day fixed by the Board when the call for adoption is
27 made."

28 Section 3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Board of
29 Education the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the 1999-2000 fiscal year to
30 expand the membership and expertise of the North Carolina Textbook Commission.

31 Section 4. Sections 3 and 4 of this act become effective July 1, 1999. The
32 remaining sections become effective January 1, 2000. Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-87,
33 the additional members appointed to the Textbook Commission under this act shall hold
34 office until the new Governor takes office in 2001 and their successors are appointed and
35 qualified.