

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 720

Short Title: School & Teacher Paperwork Reduction Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Murry, Blust, and Brandon (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

Referred to: Education.

April 7, 2011

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENACT THE SCHOOL AND TEACHER PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4
5 **TITLE OF ACT**

6 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known as the "School and Teacher Paperwork
7 Reduction Act."

8
9 **REDUCTION OF PAPERWORK BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

10 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-12(19) reads as rewritten:

11 **"§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.**

12 The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be vested
13 in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish policy for the
14 system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General Assembly. The powers
15 and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as follows:

16 ...

17 (19) Duty to Identify Required Reports and to Eliminate Unnecessary Reports
18 and Paperwork. – Prior to the beginning of each school year, the State Board
19 of Education shall identify all reports that are required at the State level for
20 the school year.

21 The State Board of Education shall adopt policies to ensure that local
22 school administrative units are not required by the State Board of Education,
23 the State Superintendent, or the Department of Public Instruction staff to (i)
24 provide information that is already available on the student information
25 management system or housed within the Department of Public Instruction;
26 (ii) provide the same written information more than once during a school
27 year unless the information has changed during the ensuing period; or (iii)
28 complete forms, for children with disabilities, that are not necessary to
29 ensure compliance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education
30 Act (IDEA). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State Board may require
31 information available on its student information management system or
32 require the same information twice if the State Board can demonstrate a
33 compelling need and can demonstrate there is not a more expeditious
34 manner of getting the information.



1 The State Board shall permit schools and local boards of education to
2 submit all reports to the Department of Public Instruction electronically.

3 The State Board of Education, in collaboration with the education
4 roundtables within the Department of Public Instruction, shall consolidate all
5 plans that affect the school community including school improvement plans,
6 school safety/discipline plans, and others. The consolidated plan shall be
7 posted on each school's Web site for easy access by the public and by school
8 personnel.

9 The State Board shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
10 Committee by November 15 of each year on the reports it has consolidated
11 or eliminated for the upcoming school year."

12 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

13 "(19a) Duty To Consolidate Applications for State Funding. – The State Board of
14 Education shall adopt policies to streamline the process for local school
15 administrative units applying for State funding. The policies shall provide
16 for a consolidation of all such applications."

18 **REDUCTION OF PAPERWORK BY LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION**

19 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-47(18) reads as rewritten:

20 "(18) To Make Rules Concerning the Conduct and Duties of Personnel. – Local
21 boards of education, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, shall
22 have full power to make all just and needful rules and regulations governing
23 the conduct of teachers, principals, and supervisors, the kind of reports they
24 shall make, and their duties in the care of school property.

25 Prior to the beginning of each school year, each local board of education
26 shall identify all reports, including local school required reports, that are
27 required at the local level for the school year and shall, to the maximum
28 extent possible, eliminate any duplicate or obsolete reporting requirements.
29 requirements and consolidate remaining reporting requirements. No
30 additional reports shall be required at the local level after the beginning of
31 the school year without the prior approval of the local board of education.

32 Prior to the beginning of each school year, each local board of education
33 shall also identify software protocols such as NC Wise that could be used to
34 minimize repetitious data entry by teachers and shall make them available to
35 teachers.

36 Each local board of education shall appoint a person or establish a local
37 paperwork control committee to monitor all reports and other paperwork
38 required of teachers by the central office and to monitor teachers'
39 access to software protocols that minimize repetitious data entry."

40 **SECTION 3.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.27 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

41 "(f) If a local board of education finds that a school improvement plan adequately covers
42 another plan that the local school administrative unit is otherwise required to prepare, the local
43 school administrative unit shall not be required to prepare an additional plan on the matter."

45 **REDUCTION OF PAPERWORK BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND** 46 **HUMAN SERVICES**

47 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with
48 the More at Four Program and the Smart Start Program, shall review all reporting requirements
49 imposed on the public schools relating to the operations of the programs and child care
50 regulation requirements. The Department of Health and Human Services shall reduce the

1 frequency of reporting as appropriate, based upon the review and recommendation of the
2 parties involved.

3 The Department Health and Human Services shall report to the General Assembly
4 on its implementation of this section by October 1, 2011.

6 **ELIMINATION OF TECHNOLOGY REPORTS**

7 **SECTION 5.(a)** G.S. 115C-102.6C is repealed.

8 **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 115C-102.6D(d) is repealed.

9 **SECTION 5.(c)** G.S. 115C-102.7 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 115C-102.7. Monitoring and evaluation of State and local school system technology** 11 **plans; reports.**

12 (a) The Department of Public Instruction shall monitor and evaluate the development
13 and implementation of the State ~~and local school system technology plans.~~ technology plan.
14 The evaluation shall consider the effects of technology on student learning, the effects of
15 technology on students' workforce readiness, the effects of technology on teacher productivity,
16 and the cost-effectiveness of the technology.

17 (a1) Repealed by Session Laws 1997-18, s. 15(k).

18 (b) Repealed by Session Laws 2009-451, s. 7.31, effective July 1, 2009.

19 ~~(c) The Department of Public Instruction shall randomly check local school system~~
20 ~~technology plans to ensure that local school administrative units are implementing their plans~~
21 ~~as approved. The Department shall report to the State Board of Education on which local~~
22 ~~school administrative units are not complying with their plans. The report shall include the~~
23 ~~reasons these local school administrative units are out of compliance and a recommended plan~~
24 ~~of action to support each of these local school administrative units in carrying out their plans."~~

26 **REPEAL OF PROVISIONS PERMITTING THE PREPAYMENT OF TEACHERS**

27 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 115C-302.1(b) reads as rewritten:

28 "(b) Salary Payments. – State-allotted teachers shall be paid for a term of 10 months.
29 State-allotted months of employment for vocational education to local boards shall be used for
30 the employment of teachers of vocational and technical education for a term of employment to
31 be determined by the local boards of education. However, local boards shall not reduce the
32 term of employment for any vocational agriculture teacher personnel position that was 12
33 calendar months for the 1982-83 school year for any school year thereafter. In addition, local
34 boards shall not reduce the term of employment for any vocational agriculture teacher
35 personnel position that was 12 calendar months for the 2003-2004 school year for any school
36 year thereafter.

37 Each local board of education shall establish a set date on which monthly salary payments
38 to State-allotted teachers shall be made. This set pay date may differ from the end of the month
39 of service. The daily rate of pay for teachers shall equal midway between one twenty-first and
40 one twenty-second of the monthly rate of pay. Except for teachers employed in a year-round
41 school or paid in accordance with a year-round calendar, or both, the initial pay date for
42 teachers shall be no later than August 31 and shall include a full monthly payment. Subsequent
43 pay dates shall be spaced no more than one month apart and shall include a full monthly
44 payment.

45 ~~Teachers may be prepaid on the monthly pay date for days not yet worked. A teacher who~~
46 ~~fails to attend scheduled workdays or who has not worked the number of days for which the~~
47 ~~teacher has been paid and who resigns, is dismissed, or whose contract is not renewed shall~~
48 ~~repay to the local board any salary payments received for days not yet worked. A teacher who~~
49 ~~has been prepaid and continues to be employed by a local board but fails to attend scheduled~~
50 ~~workdays may be subject to dismissal under G.S. 115C-325 or other appropriate discipline.~~
51 Teachers shall only be paid for the days employed as of the set pay date. Payment for a full

1 month when days employed are less than a full month is prohibited as this constitutes
2 prepayment.

3 Any individual teacher who is not employed in a year-round school may be paid in 12
4 monthly installments if the teacher so requests on or before the first day of the school year. The
5 request shall be filed in the local school administrative unit which employs the teacher. The
6 payment of the annual salary in 12 installments instead of 10 shall not increase or decrease the
7 teacher's annual salary nor in any other way alter the contract made between the teacher and the
8 local school administrative unit. Teachers employed for a period of less than 10 months shall
9 not receive their salaries in 12 installments.

10 Notwithstanding this subsection, the term "daily rate of pay" for the purpose of
11 G.S. 115C-12(8) or for any other law or policy governing pay or benefits based on the teacher
12 salary schedule shall not exceed one twenty-second of a teacher's monthly rate of pay."
13

14 **ELIMINATION OF PERSONAL EDUCATION PLAN REQUIREMENT**

15 **SECTION 7.** G.S. 115C-105.41 is repealed.
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17 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

18 **SECTION 8.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
19 the 2011-2012 school year.