

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

**SESSION LAW 2001-174  
SENATE BILL 378**

AN ACT TO PERMIT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS LEADERSHIP,  
MANAGEMENT, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY IN A FIELD OTHER  
THAN EDUCATION TO SERVE AS A LOCAL SUPERINTENDENT OF  
SCHOOLS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-271(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) It is the policy of the State that each local board of education has the sole discretion to elect a superintendent of schools. However, the State Board shall adopt rules that establish the qualifications for election. At a minimum, each superintendent shall have been a principal in a North Carolina public school or shall have ~~equivalent experience.~~ other leadership, management, and administrative experience. In addition, the State Board ~~may establish other~~ shall adopt rules that include minimum credentials, educational prerequisites, and relevant experience requirements. ~~requirements that would qualify a person to serve as a superintendent without having direct experience or certification as an educator.~~ It is the duty of each local board to elect a superintendent who is qualified. If a local board elects a superintendent who is not qualified or who cannot qualify under this section, then the election and contract are null and void, and the board shall elect a person who is qualified."

**SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001, and applies to superintendents elected after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2001.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue  
President of the Senate

s/ James B. Black  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley  
Governor

Approved 9:02 a.m. this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2001