

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH50832-RJz-9\* (04/04)

Short Title: Study Raising Compulsory Attendance Age.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Parmon.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A BLUE  
3 RIBBON TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE IMPACTS OF RAISING THE  
4 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PRIOR  
5 TO COMPLETION OF A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA FROM SIXTEEN TO  
6 SEVENTEEN OR EIGHTEEN, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE  
7 COMMISSION ON DROPOUT PREVENTION AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** The State Board of Education shall establish a Blue Ribbon Task  
10 Force to study the impacts of raising the compulsory public school attendance age prior to  
11 completion of a high school diploma from 16 to 17 or 18. In its study, the Board of Governors  
12 shall consider all of the following:

- 13 (1) What impacts, including fiscal impacts, has raising the compulsory school  
14 attendance age had in states which have raised the compulsory school  
15 attendance age in the last 15 years.  
16 (2) What conclusions can be drawn as to the impact the compulsory school  
17 attendance age has made in the dropout and high school completion rates for  
18 states who require compulsory school attendance to ages 16, 17, and 18,  
19 respectively.  
20 (3) What best practices for working with at-risk populations of students who  
21 remain in school have been employed in states that have raised the  
22 compulsory attendance age in the last 15 years.  
23 (4) What would be the fiscal impact in raising the compulsory school attendance  
24 age from 16 to 17 and 16 to 18, respectively, for each local administrative  
25 school unit in North Carolina.

26 **SECTION 2.** No later than November 15, 2010, the State Board of Education shall  
27 submit a report of its study to the Joint Legislative Commission on Dropout Prevention and  
28 High School Graduation and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, including  
29 its findings and recommendations.

30 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

