

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**SENATE BILL 1247\***

Short Title: Amend Dropout Prevention Grants. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Davis; Atwater, Bingham, Blue, Boseman, Dorsett, Foriest, Graham, Jenkins, Jones, McKissick, Queen, Snow, Stevens, Swindell, and Tillman.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

May 20, 2010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRITERIA USED BY THE COMMITTEE ON DROPOUT  
3 PREVENTION TO AWARD THE DROPOUT PREVENTION GRANTS, TO DIRECT  
4 THE COMMITTEE ON DROPOUT PREVENTION TO USE EVALUATIONS FROM  
5 PRIOR GRANT CYCLES TO IDENTIFY EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMMATIC  
6 ELEMENTS THAT ARE EFFECTIVE AND REPLICABLE, AND TO ALLOCATE  
7 FUNDS TO STUDY HIGH SCHOOLS THAT HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED  
8 THEIR DROPOUT RATE TO IDENTIFY PROGRAMS THAT MERIT REPLICATION  
9 AND ASSESS THE PROGRESS OF PROGRAMS THAT ARE NO LONGER  
10 RECEIVING DROPOUT PREVENTION GRANTS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE  
11 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON DROPOUT PREVENTION AND HIGH  
12 SCHOOL GRADUATION.

13 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

14 **SECTION 1.** Section 7.13(b)(3) of S.L. 2009-451 reads as rewritten:

15 "(3) Grants shall be distributed geographically throughout the State and  
16 throughout the eight educational districts as defined in G.S. 115C-65. No  
17 more than three grants shall be awarded in any one county under this section  
18 in a single fiscal year. When grant applications are of equal quality and  
19 merit, grants shall be given to applications from counties with no current  
20 grant recipients."

21 **SECTION 2.** Section 7.13(b)(10) of S.L. 2009-451 reads as rewritten:

22 "(10) Priority for grants shall be given to programs that would serve students in  
23 local schools that have ~~a four-year cohort graduation rate of less than~~  
24 ~~sixty five percent (65%).~~ either: (i) a four-year cohort graduation rate of less  
25 than sixty percent (60%) in the most recent school year and one of two prior  
26 school years, or (ii) a performance composite under fifty percent (50%). The  
27 Committee shall establish a grant rating cutoff score at such a level as to  
28 allow for consideration of all viable grants in this priority category. The  
29 Committee may require grantees to provide supplemental information in  
30 response to any prior reviewer comments."

31 **SECTION 3.** Section 7.13(b)(11) of S.L. 2009-451 reads as rewritten:

32 "(11) Priority for grants shall be given to proposals demonstrating the potential for  
33 ~~success~~-success and that contain multiple evidence-based programmatic  
34 elements that have been shown to be effective and replicable. The  
35 Committee on Dropout Prevention shall use the evaluations from prior grant  
36 cycles to identify the evidence-based programmatic elements."



1           **SECTION 4.** Section 7.13(f) of S.L. 2009-451 is amended by adding a new  
2 subdivision to read:

3           "(5) Up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year  
4           shall be used by the Committee on Dropout Prevention to conduct a  
5           systematic study of high schools that have reduced their dropout rate  
6           significantly over the past three years to identify programs that merit  
7           replication. This study shall be designed and conducted under the direction  
8           of the Dropout Prevention Committee and shall include assessment of  
9           successful programs in counties that have not received dropout prevention  
10           grants and programs that received grants in previous years but are no longer  
11           receiving dropout prevention grants. Such assessments shall be used for  
12           comparison purposes with funded grants."

13           **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2010.