

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL 123
House Committee Substitute Favorable 7/16/19

Short Title: Geo Iso Sch/Transp Eff Buff/Currituck Cty Sch.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 25, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REVISE THE GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED SCHOOLS FORMULA
3 REGARDING THE ALLOCATION OF TEACHERS FOR CURRITUCK COUNTY; TO
4 INCREASE THE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY BUDGET RATING FOR
5 CURRITUCK COUNTY SCHOOLS; AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF
6 EDUCATION TO DEVELOP DRAFT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR AUDITING
7 PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP DATA.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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10 **PART I. REVISE THE GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED SCHOOLS FORMULA**
11 **REGARDING THE ALLOCATION OF TEACHERS FOR CURRITUCK COUNTY**

12 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-301(g1) reads as rewritten:

13 "(g1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the State Board of Education
14 shall allot additional classroom teachers to schools ~~containing grades kindergarten through 12~~
15 when consolidation is not feasible due to the geographic isolation of the school and the school
16 meets at least one of the following criteria for geographic isolation:

- 17 (1) The school contains grades kindergarten through 12 and is located in a local
18 school administrative unit in which the average daily membership is less than
19 1.5 per square mile.
20 (2) The school contains grades kindergarten through 12 and is located in a local
21 school administrative unit for a county containing more than 150,000 acres of
22 national forest owned by the federal government and managed by the United
23 States Forest Service pursuant to G.S. 104-5.
24 (3) The school contains grades kindergarten through five, is located in a local
25 school administrative unit for a county containing all or a portion of at least
26 one national wildlife refuge owned by the federal government and managed
27 by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to G.S. 104-10, and
28 is only accessible to the majority of the local school administrative unit, while
29 remaining in the local school administrative unit, by ferry.

30 The State Board shall allot teachers to geographically isolated schools pursuant to this
31 subsection on the basis of one classroom teacher per grade level and shall allot teachers to the
32 remainder of the local school administrative unit in accordance with the formulas for the regular
33 classroom teacher allotment."

34 **SECTION 1.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies only to
35 Currituck County Schools.
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1 **PART II. INCREASE THE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY BUDGET RATING**
2 **FOR CURRITUCK COUNTY SCHOOLS**

3 **SECTION 2.(a)** For purposes of calculating the transportation efficiency budget
4 rating for a local school administrative unit, the Department of Public Instruction shall include
5 an assumption that the transportation efficiency budget rating is at least 15 percentage points
6 higher than the actual transportation efficiency budget rating calculated by the Department for
7 that local school administrative unit.

8 **SECTION 2.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies only to
9 Currituck County Schools.

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11 **PART III. REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP DRAFT**
12 **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR AUDITING PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**
13 **AND MEMBERSHIP DATA**

14 **SECTION 3.(a)** Based on a review of all available data, the State Board of
15 Education, in consultation with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Charter
16 School Advisory Board, shall develop draft policies and procedures for auditing the following
17 information at all public schools, including schools participating in the virtual charter school pilot
18 program established by Section 8.35 of S.L. 2014-100, as amended by Section 8.13 of S.L.
19 2016-94 and Section 7.13 of S.L. 2018-5:

- 20 (1) Average daily membership at public schools, as reported in the Principal's
21 Monthly Report provided to the Department of Public Instruction by each
22 school.
23 (2) Compliance with the minimum instruction requirements of 185 days or 1,025
24 hours.
25 (3) Compliance with compulsory attendance enforcement requirements provided
26 in G.S. 115C-378.

27 **SECTION 3.(b)** The State Board of Education shall report on these draft policies
28 and procedures, as well as any legislative recommendations, to the Joint Legislative Education
29 Oversight Committee by March 15, 2020.

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31 **PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

32 **SECTION 4.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law
33 and applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.