

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL DRS45174-MTa-18E

Short Title: Sch. Psychologist Compensation & Recruitment. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Ballard, D. Davis, and Edwards (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL
3 PSYCHOLOGISTS AND TO ESTABLISH THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST
4 RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROGRAM.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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7 **PART I. INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** In addition to the salary provided in accordance with the "A" salary
9 schedule, school psychologists shall receive one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per month.

10 **SECTION 1.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
11 Public Instruction for the 2019-2020 fiscal year the sum of seven million five hundred thousand
12 dollars (\$7,500,000) in recurring funds to provide compensation increases for school
13 psychologists pursuant to this section.

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15 **PART II. SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**
16 **PROGRAM**

17 **SECTION 2.(a)** Program; Purpose. – The State Board of Education shall establish
18 the School Psychologists Recruitment and Retention Program (Program). The purpose of the
19 Program is to recruit high-quality school psychologists to public school units and retain
20 high-quality school psychologists in public school units by providing signing and retention
21 bonuses to select school psychologists.

22 **SECTION 2.(b)** Definitions. – For purposes of this section, the following definitions
23 shall apply:

- 24 (1) Public school unit. – Any of the following:
- 25 a. A local school administrative unit.
 - 26 b. A charter school.
 - 27 c. A regional school.
 - 28 d. A school providing elementary or secondary instruction operated by
29 one of the following:
 - 30 1. The State Board of Education, including schools operated
31 under Article 7A and Article 9C of this Chapter.
 - 32 2. The University of North Carolina, including schools operated
33 under Articles 4, 29, and 29A of Chapter 116 of the General
34 Statutes.
 - 35 3. The Department of Health and Human Services.



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1 funds to establish one new, full-time equivalent recruitment and retention coordinator position at
2 the Department to administer the Program.

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4 **PART III. EFFECTIVE DATE**

5 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.