

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 450
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 5/5/21
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/22/21

Short Title: Various Education Changes.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 5, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM AND
3 DETECTION SYSTEMS IN EXISTING PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, TO
4 AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL NATIONALLY STANDARDIZED TESTS TO SATISFY
5 NINTH GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOL TESTING REQUIREMENTS, AND TO PROVIDE
6 MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER SERVICES TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

9 "(47) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules applicable to all public school
10 units that require existing school buildings to be equipped with carbon
11 monoxide alarm and detection systems in accordance with the requirements
12 for new buildings in Section 915 of the North Carolina State Building Code,
13 Fire Prevention Code. The installation of carbon monoxide alarm and
14 detection systems shall be permitted, installed, and inspected as required by
15 the North Carolina State Building Code. An existing school building shall not
16 be required to be equipped with a carbon monoxide alarm and detection
17 system if the system would not be required for a new building under Section
18 915 of the North Carolina State Building Code, Fire Prevention Code."

19 **SECTION 1.(b)** The State Board of Education may adopt temporary rules to
20 implement the requirements of this act. The temporary and permanent rules required by
21 G.S. 115C-12(47), as enacted by Section 1 of this act, shall ensure that the requirement for
22 existing school buildings to have carbon monoxide alarm and detection systems takes effect no
23 later than July 1, 2023.

24 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-549 reads as rewritten:

25 "**§ 115C-549. Standardized testing requirements.**

26 (a) Each private church school or school of religious charter shall administer, at least
27 once in each school year, a nationally standardized test or other nationally standardized
28 equivalent measurement selected by the chief administrative officer of such school, to all students
29 enrolled or regularly attending grades three, six and ~~nine~~-nine, as follows:

- 30 (1) ~~The~~ For grades three and six, the nationally standardized test or other
31 equivalent measurement selected must measure achievement in the areas of
32 English grammar, reading, spelling and mathematics.
33 (2) For grade nine, the nationally standardized test or other equivalent
34 measurement selected must measure either of the following:



1 a. Achievement in the areas of English grammar, reading, spelling, and
2 mathematics.
3 b. Competencies in the verbal and quantitative areas.
4 (b) Each school shall make and maintain records of the results achieved by its students.
5 For one year after the testing, all records shall be made available, subject to G.S. 115C-174.13,
6 at the principal office of such school, at all reasonable times, for annual inspection by a duly
7 authorized representative of the State of North Carolina."

8 **SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 115C-557 reads as rewritten:

9 "**§ 115C-557. Standardized testing requirements.**

10 (a) Each qualified nonpublic school shall administer, at least once in each school year, a
11 nationally standardized test or other nationally standardized equivalent measurement selected by
12 the chief administrative officer of such school, to all students enrolled or regularly attending
13 grades three, six and ~~nine~~-nine, as follows:

14 (1) ~~The~~ For grades three and six, the nationally standardized test or other
15 equivalent measurement selected must measure achievement in the areas of
16 English grammar, reading, spelling and mathematics.

17 (2) For grade nine, the nationally standardized test or other equivalent
18 measurement selected must measure either of the following:

19 a. Achievement in the areas of English grammar, reading, spelling, and
20 mathematics.

21 b. Competencies in the verbal and quantitative areas.

22 (b) Each school shall make and maintain records of the results achieved by its students.
23 For one year after the testing, all records shall be made available, subject to G.S. 115C-174.13,
24 at the principal office of such school, at all reasonable times, for annual inspection by a duly
25 authorized representative of the State of North Carolina."

26 **SECTION 2.(c)** G.S. 115C-562.5(a)(4) reads as rewritten:

27 "(4) Administer, at least once in each school year, a nationally standardized test or
28 other nationally standardized equivalent measurement selected by the chief
29 administrative officer of the nonpublic school to all eligible students whose
30 tuition and fees are paid in whole or in part with a scholarship grant enrolled
31 in grades three and higher. ~~The~~ For grades three through eight, the nationally
32 standardized test or other equivalent measurement selected must measure
33 achievement in the areas of English grammar, reading, spelling, and
34 mathematics. For grades nine through 12, the nationally standardized test or
35 other equivalent measurement selected must measure either (i) achievement
36 in the areas of English grammar, reading, spelling, and mathematics or (ii)
37 competencies in the verbal and quantitative areas. Test performance data shall
38 be submitted to the Authority by July 15 of each year. Test performance data
39 reported to the Authority under this subdivision is not a public record under
40 Chapter 132 of the General Statutes."

41 **SECTION 2.(d)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to tests
42 given beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

43 **SECTION 3.** Part 1 of Article 16 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes is amended
44 by adding a new section to read:

45 "**§ 160A-330. Provision of water and sewer services to charter schools.**

46 (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "charter property" means real property that
47 is owned by or leased to an entity for use as a charter school facility for a charter school that has
48 received State Board of Education approval under G.S. 115C-218.5.

49 (b) A municipality shall provide water, sewer, or water and sewer services to a charter
50 property to which those services are not otherwise provided if the following requirements are
51 met:

- 1 (1) The property owner of the charter property requests in writing water, sewer,
2 or water and sewer services to the charter property.
- 3 (2) The municipality has available capacity in the requested service or services.
- 4 (3) The property owner of the charter property agrees in writing to the
5 requirements contained in a utility extension agreement established by the
6 municipal governing board.
- 7 (4) The property owner of the charter property agrees to payment of all costs for
8 extending the requested services.
- 9 (c) A developer of a charter property, with the written consent of the property owner,
10 may make the request for services under subsection (b) of this section, agree to the requirements
11 of a utility extension agreement with the municipal governing board, and pay for the costs of
12 extension of the requested services.
- 13 (d) If the charter property is not located within the municipal limits and the owner of the
14 charter property petitions for annexation under Part 1 or Part 4 of Article 4A of this Chapter, the
15 municipality shall grant the petition if the charter property is otherwise eligible for annexation
16 under those Parts."
- 17 **SECTION 4.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
18 law.