

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 541

Short Title: NC Promise/Add Fayetteville State. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators deViere, Blue, and Ballard (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 6, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ADD FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY AS ONE OF THE  
CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS WITH AN ESTABLISHED RATE OF TUITION AS  
PART OF THE NC PROMISE TUITION PLAN AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR  
THIS PURPOSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 116-143.11 reads as rewritten:

**"§ 116-143.11. NC Promise Tuition Plan; State "buy down" of certain financial obligations;  
annual report.**

(a) The NC Promise Tuition Plan shall be established and implemented as provided by this section. Notwithstanding G.S. 116-143 and G.S. 116-11(7), the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall set the rate of undergraduate tuition for Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Fayetteville State University, and Western Carolina University as follows: ~~beginning with the 2018 fall academic semester~~, the rate of tuition for students deemed to be North Carolina residents for purposes of tuition shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per academic semester and the rate of tuition for nonresident students shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per academic semester.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State shall "buy down" the amount of any financial obligation resulting from the established tuition rate that may be incurred by Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Fayetteville State University, and Western Carolina University.

(c) When implementing the provisions of this section, the Board of Governors shall give due consideration to maintaining the unique historical character of each institution, including service to students who are first generation, college-going, economically disadvantaged, or minority.

(d) By October 1, 2018, and by October 1 of each year thereafter, the Board of Governors and the chancellors of Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Fayetteville State University, and Western Carolina University, respectively, shall submit a report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the House Appropriations Committee on Education, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, and the Fiscal Research Division on the amount of any financial obligation resulting from the established tuition rate incurred at each constituent institution and at least the following information for the fiscal year:

(1) The amount required to offset the forgone tuition receipts at each of the ~~three~~ four constituent institutions as a result of the tuition rate established by this section and how those funds were allocated to each constituent institution.



1                   (2)     The number of enrolled resident students at each constituent institution.

2                   (3)     The number of enrolled nonresident students at each constituent institution."

3                   **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors  
4 of The University of North Carolina the sum of eleven million five hundred thousand dollars  
5 (\$11,500,000) in additional recurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year for the purpose of the  
6 "buy down" of any financial obligations resulting from the established tuition rate under  
7 G.S. 116-143.11 incurred by Fayetteville State University.

8                   **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021, and applies beginning with  
9 the 2022-2023 academic year.