May 25, 2000

H 1727. ABC PILOT/STUDIES. TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT A PILOT PROGRAM TO INCREASE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENTS WHO ARE PERFORMING BELOW GRADE LEVEL, TO REPEAL THE "ADVANCED COMPETENCIES" PORTION OF THE EXCELLENT SCHOOLS ACT, TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS DURING INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS, TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD TO MAKE AN INTERIM REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE DROPOUT PREVENTION/DRIVERS LICENSE LAW. TO REQUIRE THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO STUDY INCREASING THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME AND THE CONTRACTUAL PERIOD FOR TEACHERS, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS. Amends SL 1999-237 to require State Board to designate five local school administrative units to participate in new model of the pilot program to increase performance of students performing below grade level and to have those schools develop programs that can be replicated at other schools. Provides that schools must demonstrate increase in student performance to continue to receive funds for the following school year. Appropriates \$4.6 million for 2000-2001 from General Fund to State Aid for Local School Administrative Units to implement new model. Amends GS 115C-47 to require local boards of education to adopt policies that prohibit smoking in school buildings during instructional hours. Effective July 1, 2000.

Intro. by Arnold.

Ref. to Education GS 115C, APPROP, STUDIES