

June 5, 2002

**H 1531. CIGARETTE TAX FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** *TO INCREASE THE CIGARETTE TAX FROM FIVE CENTS A PACK TO TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A PACK AND TO EARMARK THE RESULTING REVENUES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASS SIZE REDUCTION, THE MORE AT FOUR PROGRAM, AND TEACHER SALARIES.* Rewrites GS 105-113.5 and adds new GS 143-15E, as title indicates. The new section establishes The Trust Fund for Public Schools as an interest-bearing, nonreverting special trust account in the Office of State Budget and Management. Specifies that funds may be expended only pursuant to appropriation by the General Assembly and according to the following requirements: 25%, to reduce class size; 25% for the More at Four program; and 50% for public school teacher salaries. Effective July 1, 2002.

**Intro. by Miller.**

Ref. to Finance	GS 105, 143
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