

March 15, 2001

**H 645. SCHOOL DRESS CODES AND APPEARANCE POLICIES.** *TO ENACT DRESS CODES AND APPEARANCE POLICIES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES.* As title indicates. Requires principals to establish and enforce (by suspending or expelling students who violate dress code) student appearance and dress codes. Requires that these codes prohibit a long list of "inappropriate" dress, such as wearing sunglasses inside building, wearing skirt that is higher than three inches above the knee, wearing saggy pants, wearing shoes with untied laces, etc. Applies beginning with the 2001-02 school year.

**Intro. by Capps.**

Ref. to Education	GS 115C
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April 25, 2001

**H 645. SCHOOL DRESS CODES AND APPEARANCE POLICIES.** Intro. 3/15/01. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Changes title to *AN ACT TO REQUIRE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT DRESS CODE AND APPEARANCE POLICIES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES.* Amends GS 115C-47 to make it a responsibility of local boards of education to adopt dress code and appearance policies for students and employees, rather than requiring principals and supervisors to interpret and enforce state policy. Provides that code and policies must require students and employees to adhere to standards of dress "compatible with the requirement of a good school environment" and deletes list of inappropriate dress. Requires principals to maintain guidelines to implement dress code and appearance policies. Authorizes principals to take appropriate action if student's or employee's dress disrupts the learning environment or constitutes a threat to health or safety.