

April 5, 2001

S 898. STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001. ENACT THE STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001.

Modifies GS 115C-81 regarding the Basic Education Program to require the high school and middle school social studies curricula to include instruction in civic and citizenship education (at the high school level to be offered as a one-week unit or throughout the year). Specifies items encouraged to be included within the curricula. Amends character education curriculum requirements to include items on responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship. Amends GS 115C-391(a) to direct local boards of education to adopt reasonable dress codes.

Effective July 1, 2001, with curriculum revisions to be implemented for the 2002-03 school year and the dress code provision effective for the 2001-02 school year.

Intro. by Dalton, Carter, Lucas.

Ref. to Education	GS 115C
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April 12, 2001

S 898. THE STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001. Intro. 04/05/01. Senate amendment makes the following changes to 1st edition. Clarifies that local boards of education must develop and implement character education with input from the local community.

June 4, 2001

S 898. THE STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001. Intro. 4/5/01. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Deletes provision in GS 115C-81 permitting local boards of education to offer instruction in civic and citizenship education in one-week unit or by inserting key points on subject throughout year. Moves proposed revisions to definition of term "respect" in GS 115C-81(h)(6) to new GS 115C-81(h1)(1) and makes other conforming changes. Delays requirement that local boards of education develop character education instruction from Oct. 1, 2001, to Jan. 1, 2002, and adds provision for delay of implementation of program with approval of State Board of Education if local board determines that it would be an economic hardship to implement instruction by 2002-2003 school year.

June 6, 2001

S 898. THE STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001. Intro. 4/5/01. House amends bill to make the following changes to 3rd edition. Adds character trait of value to the character education requirements in GS 115C-81(h). Defines value as understanding the moral laws, as exemplified in the Ten Commandments, upon which the civil laws are based. Authorizes display of Ten Commandments in specific manner described in H 681, Sec. 1. Adds new GS 115C-47(39) to authorize local school boards to adopt dress code and appearance policies for students and public school employees. New section is identical to H 645, Sec. 1. Amends new GS 115C-81(h1)(3) (concerning service to others) to specify that schools teaching service-learning through hands-on community projects must involve students on a voluntary basis (underlined words added). Adds severability clause.

June 12, 2001

S 898. THE STUDENT CITIZEN ACT OF 2001. Intro. 4/05/01. House amendments make the following changes to 4th edition. Delete provision in GS 115C-81(h) requiring instruction in value. Add GS 115C-81(g) to provide that an object containing the words of the Ten Commandments may be displayed on school property along with other documents of historical significance that have formed and influenced the United States legal or governmental system, in the same manner and appearance as other documents. Change effective date of Section 4 of act (dress code provisions) to Jan. 1, 2002.