

March 19, 2003

H 551. ATTENDANCE AGE/ELIGIBILITY/SCHOOLS FOR DEAF. TO UPDATE THE LAWS RELATING TO THE ATTENDANCE AGES AND ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS FOR NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF. Amends GS 143B-216.41 to replace references to "Board of Directors" with "Superintendent of the Office of Education Services." Expands eligibility of the NC Schools for the Deaf to deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf/blind children (was, deaf only) ages five through twenty-one years old (was, to twenty years old). Adds requirement that prior to admission, applicants must be referred by local education agencies and meet admission criteria. Deletes provision allowing admission of students outside prescribed age range in certain circumstances. Makes conforming changes.

Intro. by Tolson.

Ref. to Health	GS 143B
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April 14, 2003

H 551. ATTENDANCE AGE/ELIGIBILITY/SCHOOLS FOR DEAF. Intro. 3/19/03. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Reorganizes GS 143B-216.41 and makes other technical changes. Deletes reference to "reasonable regulations" as prescribed by the Superintendent of the Office of Education Services and references to "hard of hearing" students. Provides that multidisabled children (was, deaf/blind children) shall be admitted to schools. Requires that child's Individualized Education Program Team determine that the child's placement at school for the deaf is appropriate. Requires that Dep't of Health and Human Services provide "unique instructional program" (was, "in the branches of study now prescribed by law") to students. Requires that Dep't collaborate with institutions of higher education to provide teacher-training opportunities (was, required that Dep't provide teacher training program). Requires that vocational and technical training program be offered as set forth in transition component of IEP.