

March 24, 2005

**S 1057. EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005. TO ENACT THE EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2005.** Appropriates funds from the General Fund to a number of public education programs as follows:

Investing More Resources and Demanding More Accountability

*Fully fund the low-wealth formula over two years and require reports on the expenditure of these funds.* Appropriates \$16,550,111 for 2005-06 and \$58,527,635 for 2006-07 to Dep't of Public Instruction (DPI) for supplemental funds for the schools. Requires that funds be used to recruit and retain high quality teachers, that at least 15% of funds appropriated in 2005-06 and at least 25% of funds appropriated in 2006-07 be used for teacher's bonuses and/or full-time mentors for teachers and instructional support personnel, and that the balance be used to hire school personnel, for training, and for instructional supplies and equipment. Requires that State Board of Education (SBE) report annually on the use of funds to the General Assembly by October 31.

*Continue disadvantaged student supplemental funding and evaluate the effectiveness of improvement strategies.* Appropriates \$22.5 million for 2005-06 and \$22.5 million for 2006-07 to DPI to address the capacity needs of local school administrative units (LEAs) to meet the needs of disadvantaged students and requires that for 2005-06 these funds will continue the nonrecurring funding provided in 2004-05 and that for 2006-07 these funds will be allocated under a new SBE formula. Appropriates \$1,585,000 for 2005-06 and \$1,510,000 for 2006-07 to DPI to evaluate the Disadvantaged Students Supplemental Fund program. Requires that SBE use funds to annually evaluate LEA strategies implemented and assess their impact on student performance and report results to General Assembly by February 15, 2006, and by January 15 of subsequent years. Requires that funds be used only to provide instructional or support positions and intensive remediation, and to purchase diagnostic software and progress monitoring tools.

*Provide for new accountability for the use of funds in the At-Risk and Improving Student Accountability allotments.* Requires that funds appropriated for the allotments be used only to provide instructional or support positions and intensive remediation and to purchase diagnostic software and progress monitoring tools and provides that LEAs must submit a report to SBE by October 31 of each year on fund expenditures in order to remain eligible for funds. Requires that SBE report information annually by October 31 to the General Assembly.

*LEA Assistance Program.* Requires that assistance to LEAs provided by DPI be consolidated into the LEA Assistance Program (LEAAP), to provide assistance to the State's low-performing LEAs and assist schools in meeting subgroup progress under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Requires that \$6.5 million be transferred from existing DPI appropriations to the LEAAP. Requires that SBE develop criteria for LEA Assistance Teams as outlined in act. Requires that SBE submit report to Office of State Budget and Management, Fiscal Research, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the criteria, budget, and new organizational structure of the LEAAP by August 1, 2005, for 2005-06 academic year and by August 31 of each subsequent year.

Recruiting and Retaining Quality Teachers and Principals Across the State

*UNC-NCCS Joint Initiative for Teacher Education and Recruitment.* Appropriates \$640,000 for 2005-2006 and \$640,000 for 2006-07 to the UNC Board of Governors. Requires that funds be used to establish eight positions for Initiative, new staff to assist in increasing the number of certified teachers in NC public schools. Provides that each constituent institution of The University of North Carolina with a teacher education program must develop a 2+2 program in partnership with NC Community College System constituent institutions by June 2007. Sets forth specific tasks to be accomplished by staff and requires that Initiative results be reported annually and that report include information on all existing and planned 2+2 teacher education partnership programs specified performance outcomes by region. Also requires that results be reported to several education boards, the Education Cabinet, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and OSBM by September 1, 2006.

*UNC-NCCS 2+2 E-Learning Initiative.* Appropriates \$1 million for 2005-06 and \$1 million for 2006-07 to UNC Board of Governors and \$1 million for 2005-06 and \$1 million for 2006-07 to NC

Community College System Office for Initiative. Requires that funds be used to fund further development of online courses for 2+2 programs.

*Two-Year Teaching Fellows Program for science and mathematics.* Appropriates \$330,000 for 2006-07 for administration of Fellows Program. Amends GS 115C-363.23A to require that program be used to provide 50 two-year scholarship loans of \$6,500 per year to NC college juniors and seniors who intend to teach in middle school or high school mathematics or science and requires that Teaching Fellows Comm'n forgive loan if within five years of graduation recipient teaches for two years at a NC public school or a school operated by the US government in NC.

*Increase funds for the Prospective Teacher Scholarship Loan Program.* Appropriates \$1 million for 2005-06 and \$1 million for 2006-07 to DPI for Program and gives award priority to students in the 2+2 UNC-NCCCS Teacher Education and Recruitment Initiative.

*Principals Executive Program for New Principals.* Appropriates \$125,000 for 2005-06 and \$125,000 for 2006-07 to support implementation of new program to include a focus on principal's instructional leadership responsibility, data-driven decision-making, and positive teacher working conditions. Requires that all newly-hired principals attend program during first year of employment.

*Teacher working conditions initiative.* Appropriates \$215,000 for 2005-06 and \$290,000 for 2006-07 to continue Governor's Working Conditions Survey and requires that funds be used by the SBE, in collaboration with the Professional Teaching Standards Comm'n, to administer survey on a biennial basis and establish an advisory board to oversee implementation of recommendations from the survey.

*Teach for America.* Appropriates \$200,000 for 2005-06 and \$200,000 for 2006-07 to support Program in NC to recruit teachers into high-need schools.

*Standards review of MSA programs.* Requires that the SBE, working with the UNC Board of Governors, review standards for Masters in School Administration programs to ensure that teacher retention, evaluations, support program, and effectiveness are emphasized.

*Evaluation of school principals.* Requires that SBE ensure that school principals are evaluated annually and revise administrator evaluation standards to include standards for teacher retention and support and school climate.

*Planning time for teachers.* Requires that SBE report on best practices from NC schools for providing a minimum of five hours a week for planning and professional development, with a special emphasis on elementary school calendars, and submit report to the NC Education Cabinet by December 31, 2005.

*Online professional development resource center for teachers and principals.* Requires that SBE and DPI, in collaboration with the NC Professional Teaching Standards Comm'n, develop a Web portal that tracks professional development opportunities for teachers and principals. Requires that funds to implement systems be requested by DPI based on system design and that State Budget Director and Chief Information Officer release funding upon approval of the Information Technology project plan.

### Twenty-First-Century High Schools

*Learn and Earn high schools.* Appropriates \$3,247,426 in recurring funds and \$917,500 in nonrecurring funds for 2005-06 and \$9,259,440 in recurring funds and \$1 million in nonrecurring funds for 2006-07 to DPI for Learn and Earn high school workforce development program. Requires that funds be used to create rigorous and relevant high school options that provide students with an opportunity to earn an associate degree or two years of college credit by the year after their senior year in high school by establishing new high schools that incorporate community college and high school curricula. Requires that SBE annually evaluate program and report results to the General Assembly by September 15 of each year.

*Small Specialty High Schools Pilot Program.* Appropriates \$1,446,877 for 2005-06 and \$1,446,877 for 2006-07 to DPI for pilot program to create 11 small specialty high schools within existing schools in order to improve graduation rates and student performance. Requires that SBE evaluate program and report results to General Assembly by November 15, 2006.

*The Center for Twenty-First-Century Skills.* Establishes Center within the NC Business Committee for Education to design curriculum, teacher training, and student assessment to prepare students for the workforce of the future.

*Flexibility for high school innovation.* Amends GS 115C-238.51(d) to authorize SBE and State Board of Community Colleges to approve cooperative innovative high school programs (was, required that agencies approve two programs in each of State's economic development regions). Also amends GS 116C-4 (First in America Innovative Education Initiatives Act) to exempt small specialty high schools and high school programs that result from a cooperative effort between public high schools and public and private universities from laws and rules that apply to LEAs, state universities, and community colleges.

#### Supporting Families and Children for School Success

*School-based child and family support teams.* Appropriates \$10,665,754 in recurring funds and \$500,000 in nonrecurring funds for 2005-06 and \$13,382,192 for 2006-07 to DPI to establish 100 school-based child and family support teams to support the educational achievement of at-risk children. Also requires that funds be used to support 100 school nurses and 100 school social workers responsible for multidisciplinary assessments and for referral and care coordination for at-risk students and their families at 100 public schools in NC.

*Communities in Schools support and expansion.* Appropriates \$500,000 for 2005-06 and \$500,000 for 2006-07 to support expansion of the Communities in Schools of NC program, funds to be used to establish an 18-county Communities in Schools partnership in the northeast and help new and existing programs obtain federal and private grants.

Effective July 1, 2005

#### **Intro. by Dalton.**

Ref. to Appropriations

GS 115C, 116C, APPROP

May 31, 2005

**S 1057. EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005.** Intro. 3/24/05. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. (1) Deletes appropriations under the following sections: "Fully Fund the Low-Wealth Formula Over Two Years and Require Reports on the Expenditure of These Funds," "Local School system Assistance Program," "Two-Year Teaching Fellows Program for Science and Math," "Principals Executive Program for New Principals," "Teach for America," and "Small Specialty High Schools Pilot Program." (2) Deletes the following sections in their entirety: "Continue Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding and Evaluate the Effectiveness of Improvement Strategies," "UNC-NCCCS Joint Initiative for Teacher Education and Recruitment," "UNC-NCCCS 2+2 E-Learning Initiative," "Increase Funds for the Prospective Teacher Scholarship Loan Program," "Teacher Working Conditions Initiative," "Standards Review of MSA Programs," "Evaluation of School Principals," "Planning Time for Teachers," "Online Professional Development Resource Center for Teachers and Principals," "Learn and Earn High Schools," "The Center for Twenty-First-Century Skills," "Flexibility for High School Innovation," "School-Based Child and Family Support Teams," and "Communities in Schools Support and Expansion." Makes technical changes.

June 1, 2005

**S 1057. EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005.** Intro. 3/24/05. Senate amendment makes the following changes to 2nd edition. Adds new GS 115C-288.1 requiring local superintendents or their designees to evaluate all principals and assistant principals at least annually. Directs State Board of Education to ensure that evaluations include accountability measures of teacher retention, teacher support, and school climate. Permits local variation of state performance and evaluation standards under certain circumstances.