

February 7, 2007

H 121. SCIENCE SAFETY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Filed 2/7/07. *TO IMPLEMENT SCIENCE SAFETY MEASURES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.* Enacts new GS 115C-81.3 to require that each local board of education (1) certify, prior to July 1, 2008, and annually thereafter, that its high school science laboratories are equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment for students and teachers; (2) ensure that its high schools and middle schools comply with all State Board of Education policies related to science laboratory safety; and (3) designate an appropriate administrative person as the science safety officer. Amends GS 115C-296(b) to require the State Board of Education in consultation with local boards of education and the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina to evaluate, and where necessary, modify academic requirements for students preparing to teach middle and high school science classes to ensure that there is adequate preparation related to science laboratory safety. Enacts new GS 115C-521(c1) specifying that local boards of education are not to invest any money in any new high school or middle school until the building plans for the science areas have been reviewed and certified by the State Board of Education or its authorized entity to meet acceptable professional standards for school laboratories, preparation rooms, and stockrooms.

Intro. by Glazier.

GS 115C