

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 45\*  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H45-PCS70037-TB-1

Short Title: Internet Access for Public Schools.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 4, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN INVENTORY OF INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT  
ROBUST DIGITAL LEARNING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AS RECOMMENDED  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION STUDY COMMITTEE ON  
DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Whereas, digital learning is becoming an integral component of a 21st Century  
education for all students in all schools across North Carolina; and

Whereas, effective digital learning requires a variety of resources, including  
infrastructure requirements, digital devices, educational software, high-quality teachers, and  
perhaps most essentially, reliable Internet connectivity; and

Whereas, while all LEAs currently have Internet access, wireless access on a school  
building level may be either unavailable or unreliable due to funding or infrastructure  
limitations; Now, therefore,

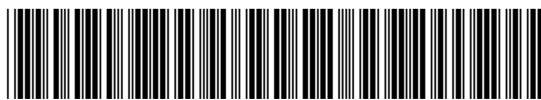
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** The State Board of Education shall establish a standard for sufficient  
classroom wireless connectivity for a digital learning environment and conduct an inventory of  
the wireless access and bandwidth capacity of each public school in the State based on that  
standard.

The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education  
Oversight Committee and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Technology by  
December 1, 2013, on the inventory results, its recommendations on ways to achieve a  
sufficient standard of wireless access and bandwidth in all classrooms, and the cost of  
achieving that standard.

**SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
Public Instruction the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 2013-2014 fiscal  
year to implement the provisions of this act.

**SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2013.



\* H 4 5 - P C S 7 0 0 3 7 - T B - 1 \*