

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

**H.B. 725**  
**Apr 10, 2017**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

H

D

HOUSE BILL DRH10259-MT-137 (03/23)

Short Title: Mental Health Support Funding/Study. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives B. Turner, Dobson, Dollar, and Cunningham (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO STUDY  
3 FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Study. – The Department of Public Instruction shall study and make  
6 recommendations regarding the funding structures in place to provide mental health support in  
7 public schools. The study shall include, but not be limited to, a review and analysis of all of the  
8 following:

- 9 (1) The different ways in which mental health support in public schools receives  
10 funding in North Carolina. This shall include, but not be limited to, the  
11 following:  
12 a. The personnel involved in providing mental health support,  
13 including, but not limited to, nurses, psychologists, school  
14 counselors, social workers, and special education teachers.  
15 b. Salaries, operational costs, and contracts for services associated with  
16 the mental health support personnel identified pursuant to  
17 sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (1) of this section.  
18 c. Programs to support at-risk students.  
19 (2) Whether salaried positions or contracts for services are a more cost-effective  
20 means of providing mental health support in schools.  
21 (3) The extent to which mental health support funding is or should be tied to the  
22 level of need at a particular school or within a particular local school  
23 administrative unit.  
24 (4) The advisability of tying mental health support funding to a particular  
25 measure or combination of measures. Measures may include, for example, a  
26 confidential and anonymous score for each student based on survey  
27 information and physical examinations similar to the Adverse Childhood  
28 Experiences (ACEs) score.  
29 (5) Any other matter the Department deems relevant to the study.

30 **SECTION 2.** Report. – The Department of Public Instruction shall report its  
31 findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Joint Legislative  
32 Education Oversight Committee no later than December 15, 2018.

33 **SECTION 3.** Effective Date. – This act is effective when it becomes law.

