GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2023

S SENATE BILL 49

SENATE BILL 49 PROPOSED HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S49-PCS45353-TC-48

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Short Title: Parents' Bill of Rights. (Public) Sponsors: Referred to: February 1, 2023 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO ENUMERATE THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS TO DIRECT THE UPBRINGING, EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, AND MENTAL HEALTH OF THEIR MINOR CHILDREN. The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: PART I. PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS **SECTION 1.** The General Statutes are amended by adding a new Chapter to read: "Chapter 114A. "Parents' Bill of Rights. "§ 114A-1. Definitions. The following definitions apply in this Article: Reserved for future codification purposes. (1) (2) Child. – A person less than 18 years of age who has not been emancipated pursuant to Article 35 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes. Reserved for future codification purposes. (3) Reserved for future codification purposes. (4) Parent. – A person who has legal custody of a child, including a natural parent, (5) adoptive parent, or legal guardian. State. – The State, any of its political subdivisions, or any public school unit. (6) "§ 114A-10. Parents' bill of rights. A parent has the right to the following: To direct the education and care of his or her child. (1) To direct the upbringing and moral or religious training of his or her child. (2) To enroll his or her child in a public or nonpublic school and in any school (3) choice options available to the parent for which the child is otherwise eligible by law in order to comply with compulsory attendance laws, as provided in Part 1 of Article 26 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes. To access and review all education records, as authorized by the federal <u>(4)</u> Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, relating to his or her child. To make health care decisions for his or her child, unless otherwise provided (5) by law, including Article 1A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes. To access and review all medical records of his or her child, as authorized by (6) the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), P.L. 104-191, as amended, except as follows:



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If an authorized investigator requests that information not be released

2			to a parent because the parent is the subject of an investigation of either
3			of the following:
4			1. A crime committed against the child under Chapter 14 of the
5			General Statutes.
6			2. An abuse and neglect complaint under Chapter 7B of the
7			General Statutes.
8			<u>When otherwise prohibited by law.</u>
9		<u>(7)</u>	To prohibit the creation, sharing, or storage of a biometric scan of his or her
10			child without the parent's prior written consent, except as authorized pursuant
11			to a court order or otherwise required by law, including G.S. 7B-2102 and
12			<u>G.S. 7B-2201.</u>
13		<u>(8)</u>	To prohibit the creation, sharing, or storage of his or her child's blood or
14			deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) without the parent's prior written consent
15			except as authorized pursuant to a court order or otherwise required by law
16			including G.S. 7B-2201.
17		<u>(9)</u>	To prohibit the creation by the State of a video or voice recording of his or her
18			child without the parent's prior written consent, except a recording made in
19			the following circumstances:
20			a. During or as part of a court proceeding.
21			b. As part of an investigation under Chapter 7B or Chapter 14 of the
22			General Statutes.
23			c. When the recording will be used solely for any of the following
24			purposes:
25			1. A safety demonstration, including one related to security and
26			discipline on educational property.
27			2. An academic or extracurricular activity.
28			 An academic or extracurricular activity. Classroom instruction. Photo identification cards. Security or surveillance of buildings, grounds, or school
29			4. Photo identification cards.
30			5. Security or surveillance of buildings, grounds, or school
31			transportation.
32		<u>(10)</u>	To be promptly notified if an employee of the State suspects that a criminal
33			offense has been committed against his or her child, unless the incident has
34			first been reported to law enforcement or the county child welfare agency, and
35			notification of the parent would impede the investigation.
36	" <u>§ 114A-</u>	15. Lin	nitations on the right to parent.
37	<u>(a)</u>	The re	equirements of this Article do not authorize a parent to do any of the following
38		<u>(1)</u>	Engage in unlawful conduct.
39		<u>(2)</u>	Abuse or neglect the child, as defined in Chapter 7B of the General Statutes.
40	<u>(b)</u>	The re	equirements of this Article do not prohibit the following:
41		<u>(1)</u>	A State official or employee from acting in his or her official capacity within
42			the reasonable and prudent scope of his or her authority.
43		<u>(2)</u>	A court of competent jurisdiction from acting in its official capacity within
44			the reasonable and prudent scope of its authority or issuing an order otherwise
45			permitted by law.
46	" <u>§ 114A-</u>	20. Em	ployee penalties.
47			of the State who encourages, coerces, or attempts to encourage or coerce a child
48			mation from his or her parent may be subject to disciplinary action."
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PART II. PARENTAL GUIDES AND NOTIFICATIONS

1		CTION 2.(a) Subchapter III of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended						
2	by adding a new Article to read:							
3 4		"Article 7B. "Dublic School Unit Programments						
5		"Public School Unit Requirements.						
	"\$ 11 <i>EC</i> 76 1	"Part 1. Definitions.						
6	" <u>§ 115C-76.1.</u>							
7		his Article, the following definitions apply:						
8 9	$\frac{(1)}{(2)}$	Reserved for future codification purposes.						
	<u>(2)</u>	Child. – A person less than 18 years of age who has not been emancipated						
10	(2)	pursuant to Article 35 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes.						
11	<u>(3)</u>	Reserved for future codification purposes.						
12	<u>(4)</u>	Reserved for future codification purposes.						
13	<u>(5)</u>	Parent. – A person who has legal custody of a child, including a natural parent,						
14	(6)	adoptive parent, or legal guardian.						
15	<u>(6)</u>	Principal. – A school administrator employed as a principal of a school, as						
16		provided in Article 19 of this Chapter, or the staff member with the highest						
17	(7)	decision-making authority at a school, if there is no principal.						
18	<u>(7)</u>	School personnel. – Any of the following:						
19		a. An employee of a public school unit, whether full-time or part-time,						
20		including substitute teachers, driver training teachers, bus drivers,						
21		clerical staff, and custodians.						
22		b. An independent contractor or employee of an independent contractor						
23		of a public school unit, if the independent contractor carries out duties						
24		customarily performed by school personnel and has significant access						
25	(0)	to students, whether paid with federal, State, local, or other funds.						
26	<u>(8)</u>	Superintendent. – Any of the following:						
27		a. A superintendent of a local school administrative unit, as provided in						
28		Article 18 of this Chapter, or designee.						
29		b. The staff member with the highest decision-making authority for a						
30		public school unit, if there is no superintendent or designee.						
31 32	"\$ 1150 76 20	"Part 3. Parental Involvement in Public School Units.						
		Priority of parental involvement in public school.						
33		General Assembly finds that parental involvement and empowerment is the successful education of all students. To strengthen partnerships among parents						
34 35		onnel, public school units and all public school unit personnel shall fully support						
36	-	n implementing a well-planned, inclusive, and comprehensive program to assist						
37	_	illies in effectively participating in their child's education.						
38	•	nsure active engagement and timely provision of information that parents can use						
39		ress for their child, public school units shall comply with the requirements of this						
40	Part to do all of	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
41		Inform parents of their legal rights and responsibilities with regards to their						
42	<u>(1)</u>	child's education.						
43	(2)	Provide a parent's guide for student achievement annually to parents to						
44	<u>(2)</u>	provide information parents need to know about their child's educational						
45		progress and how they can help their child to succeed in school.						
46	(3)	Develop policies to effectively involve parents in schools and their child's						
47	<u>(3)</u>	education.						
48	"8 115C-76 25	Parent legal rights for their child's education.						
46 49		nts have legal rights with regards to their child's education, including the						
50	following:	nto nuve legal rights with regards to their clinus education, including the						
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recommended immunization schedule.

Parental actions that can do the following:

School entry requirements, including required immunizations and the

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<u>e.</u>

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1 Strengthen the child's academic progress, especially in the area of a. 2 reading as provided in Part 1A of Article 8 of this Chapter. 3 Strengthen the child's citizenship, especially social skills and respect <u>b.</u> 4 for others. 5 Strengthen the child's realization of high expectations and setting <u>c.</u> 6 lifelong learning goals. 7 Place a strong emphasis on the communication between the school and d. 8 the home. 9 Services available for parents and their children, such as family literacy (3) 10 services; mentoring, tutoring, and other academic reinforcement programs; college planning, academic advisement, and student counseling services; and 11 12 after-school programs. 13 Opportunities for parental participation, such as parenting classes, adult <u>(4)</u> education, school advisory councils, and school volunteer programs. 14 15 (5) Opportunities for parents to learn about rigorous academic programs that may be available for their child, such as honors programs, Career and College 16 Promise and other dual enrollment opportunities, advanced placement, 17 Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) courses, 18 19 International Baccalaureate, North Carolina Virtual High School courses, and 20 accelerated access to postsecondary education. 21 Educational choices available to parents, including each type of public school (6) unit available to residents of the county in which the child lives and nonpublic 22 23 school options, educational choice options offered within the public school 24 unit, and scholarship grant programs under Part 2A of Article 39 and Article 25 41 of this Chapter. 26 Rights of students who have been identified as students with disabilities, as <u>(7)</u> 27 provided in Article 9 of this Chapter. 28 Contact information for school and unit offices. (8) 29 Resources for information on the importance of student health and other (9) 30 available resources for parents, including the following information on 31 available immunizations and vaccinations: 32 A recommended immunization schedule in accordance with the <u>a.</u> 33 United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 34 recommendations. 35 Information about meningococcal meningitis and influenza, as b. 36 required by G.S. 115C-375.4. 37 The State Board shall update the minimum requirements on an annual basis and shall provide the requirements to public school units no later than May 1 annually. 38 39 Each public school unit shall provide to parents, students, and school personnel at the 40 beginning of each school year a parent guide for student achievement that meets the following 41 requirements: 42 Includes, at a minimum, the State Board requirements developed as provided (1) 43 in subsection (a) of this section and policies developed by the governing body 44 as provided in G.S. 115C-76.35. 45 Is understandable to students and parents. <u>(2)</u> 46 (3) Is provided in writing to the parent.

"§ 115C-76.35. Public school unit policies to increase parental involvement.

parents, and teachers.

(a) Governing bodies of public school units shall, in consultation with parents, teachers, administrators, and community partners, develop and adopt policies to promote parental

Is discussed at the beginning of each school year in meetings of students,

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involvement and empowerment in the public school unit. The policies shall provide for parental choices and establish parental responsibilities. Policies that provide for parental involvement shall include the following:

- (1) Providing links to parents for community services.
- (2) Establishing opportunities for parental involvement in the development, implementation, and evaluation of family involvement programs.
- (3) Establishing opportunities for parents to participate on school advisory councils and in school volunteer programs and other activities.
- (b) Governing bodies of public school units shall establish policies to do all of the following:
 - (1) Provide for parental participation in their child's education to improve parent and teacher cooperation in areas such as homework, school attendance, and discipline that aligns with the parent guide for student achievement required by G.S. 115C-76.30.
 - (2) Require principals to effectively communicate to parents the manner in which textbooks are used to implement the school's curricular objectives.
 - (3) Establish a procedure for parents to learn about their child's course of study and the source of any supplementary instructional materials. This procedure shall include the process for parents to inspect and review all textbooks and supplementary instructional materials that will be used in their child's classroom. The policy shall be available for in-person review by parents at the school site and publicly available on the school's website. For the purposes of this section, a textbook is as defined in G.S. 115C-85 and supplementary instructional materials include supplementary textbooks, periodicals, audiovisual materials, and other supplementary materials used for instructional purposes.
 - (4) Establish a means for parents to object to textbooks and supplementary instructional materials consistent with the requirements of G.S. 115C-98.
 - (5) Establish a process for parents to review materials for and to consent or withhold consent for participation in reproductive health and safety education programs consistent with the requirements of G.S. 115C-81.30.
 - (6) Establish a process for parents to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities offered at their child's school, including both curricular and extracurricular activities.

"§ 115C-76.40. Time lines for parental requests for information.

- (a) A parent may request in writing from the principal of the school in which his or her child is enrolled any of the information the parent has the right to access, as provided in this Part. A principal, within 10 business days, shall either (i) provide the requested information to the parent or (ii) provide an extension notice to the parent that, due to the volume or complexity of the request, the information will be provided no later than 20 business days from the date of the parental request.
- (b) If the principal (i) denies or fails to respond to the request for information within 10 business days or (ii) fails to provide information within 20 business days following an extension notice as provided in subsection (a) of this section, the parent may request in writing any of the information the parent has the right to access, as provided in this Part, from the superintendent, along with a statement specifying the time frame of the denial or failure to provide information by the principal.
- (c) If the superintendent denies or does not respond to the request for information within 10 business days, the parent may appeal the denial or lack of response to the governing body of the public school unit no later than 20 business days from the date of the request to the superintendent as provided in subsection (b) of this section. The governing body shall place the

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parent's appeal on the agenda for the next meeting of the body occurring more than three business days after submission of the appeal.

- (d) The governing body shall establish, by policy, procedures governing requests for information and appeals that reflect the requirements of this section. The governing body may designate the process to be used by parents when submitting requests for information and shall display information on the procedures for requests for information and appeals along with other parental rights, as required by G.S. 115C-76.25.
- (e) A decision of a governing body under this section is final and is not subject to judicial review.

"Part 4. Notifications of Student Physical and Mental Health.

"§ 115C-76.45. Notifications of student physical and mental health.

- (a) The governing body of a public school unit shall adopt procedures to notify a parent of the following:
 - At the beginning of each school year, notice of each health care service offered at his or her child's school and the means for the parent to provide consent for any specific service. A parent's consent to a health care service does not waive the parent's right to access his or her child's educational records or health records or to be notified of changes in his or her child's services or monitoring.
 - (2) At the beginning of each school year, procedures to exercise the parental remedies provided by G.S. 115C-76.60.
 - (3) Prior to administration to students in kindergarten through third grade, a copy of any student well-being questionnaire or health screening form and the means for the parent to consent to the use of the questionnaire or form for his or her child.
 - (4) Prior to or contemporaneous with changes, notice of changes in services or monitoring related to his or her child's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being and the school's ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for that child.
 - (5) Prior to any changes in the name or pronoun used for a student in school records or by school personnel, notice to the parent of the change.
- (b) <u>In accordance with the right of parents provided in Chapter 114A of the General Statutes, the procedures shall include a requirement that school personnel do one or both of the following:</u>
 - (1) Encourage a child to discuss issues related to the child's well-being with his or her parent.
 - (2) Facilitate discussion of the issue with the child's parents.
- (c) The procedures shall not prohibit parents from accessing any of their child's education and health records created, maintained, or used by the public school unit, except as follows:
 - (1) As limited by G.S. 114A-10(6)a.
 - When a reasonably prudent person would believe that disclosure would result in the child becoming an abused juvenile or neglected juvenile, as those terms are defined in G.S. 7B-101.
- (d) The governing body and public school unit shall not adopt procedures or forms that do any of the following:
 - (1) Prohibit school employees from notifying a parent about his or her child's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in related services or monitoring.
 - (2) Encourage or have the effect of encouraging a child to withhold from that child's parent information about his or her mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being or a change in related services or monitoring.

General Assembly Of North Carolina 1 School personnel shall not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and (e) 2 involvement in critical decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional, or physical health or 3 4 "§ 115C-76.50. Student support services training. 5 Student support services training developed or provided by a public school unit to school 6 personnel shall adhere to student services guidelines, standards, and frameworks established by 7 the Department of Public Instruction. 8

"§ 115C-76.55. Age-appropriate instruction for grades kindergarten through fourth grade.

Instruction on gender identity, sexual activity, or sexuality shall not be included in the curriculum provided in grades kindergarten through fourth grade, regardless of whether the information is provided by school personnel or third parties. For the purposes of this section, curriculum includes the standard course of study and support materials, locally developed curriculum, supplemental instruction, and textbooks and other supplementary materials, but does not include responses to student-initiated questions.

"§ 115C-76.60. Remedies for parental concerns.

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- The governing body of a public school unit shall adopt procedures for a parent to (a) notify the principal at his or her child's school regarding concerns about a public school unit's procedure or practice under this Part and a process for resolving those concerns within seven days of the date of notification by the parent. If the parental concern has not been resolved within 30 days following the date of notification by the parent, the public school unit shall provide a statement of the reasons for not resolving the concern.
- If a concern is not resolved by the public school unit within 30 days, a parent may do either of the following:
 - (1) Notify the State Board of Education of the concern and request a parental concern hearing. The State Board shall establish rules for parental concern hearings. At a minimum, the rules shall require the following:
 - The State Board of Education shall appoint a qualified hearing officer. To qualify as a hearing officer, an individual must be a member in good standing of the North Carolina State Bar with demonstrated experience in education or administrative law within the last five vears.
 - The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with rules established <u>b.</u> by the State Board.
 - The hearing officer shall determine facts related to the dispute over the <u>c.</u> public school unit's procedure or practice, consider information provided by the public school unit, and render a recommended decision for resolution to the State Board of Education within 30 days after assignment to the parental concern hearing.
 - The State Board shall approve or reject the recommended decision at <u>d.</u> its next regularly scheduled board meeting held more than seven days after receipt of the recommended decision.
 - The public school unit shall pay for the costs of the hearing officer. <u>e.</u>
 - (2) Bring an action against the public school unit as provided in Article 26 of Chapter 1 of the General Statutes for a declaratory judgment that the unit's procedure or practice violates this Part. The court may award injunctive relief to a parent and shall award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to a parent awarded injunctive relief.
- The provisions of this section are in addition to any other remedies or procedures (c) authorized or permitted by law.

"Part 5. Notification Requirements for Parental Options.

"§ 115C-76.65. Parental rights to opt-in to protected information surveys.

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1	<u>(a)</u>	The f	he following definitions shall apply in this section:			
2		<u>(1)</u>	<u>Adult</u>	student An enrolled student who is 18 years of age or older or is an		
3			eman	cipated minor.		
4		<u>(2)</u>	Protec	eted information survey. – A survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals		
5			<u>inforr</u>	nation concerning any of the following:		
6			<u>a.</u>	Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent.		
7			<u>b.</u>	Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's		
8				<u>family.</u>		
9			<u>c.</u>	Sex behavior or attitudes.		
10			<u>d.</u>	<u>Illegal</u> , antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.		
11			<u>e.</u>	Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have		
12				close family relationships.		
13			<u>f.</u>	Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as		
14				those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers.		
15			<u>g.</u>	Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's		
16				parent.		
17			<u>h.</u>	Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for		
18				participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under		
19	4			such program.		
20	<u>(b)</u>			hool unit shall make the following available to parents and adult students		
21				administration of a protected information survey. The public school unit		
22 23 24 25 26	shall prov			es for review of the following both electronically and in person:		
23 24		<u>(1)</u>		rocess for providing consent to participation in the protected information		
24 25		(2)	surve			
23 26	(a)	$\frac{(2)}{N_0}$		all text of the protected information survey. The participate in a protected information survey without		
20 27	(c)			ronic consent of the parent or the adult student.		
28	(d)			ents of this section are in addition to the rights provided to parents and		
28 29				etion of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. § 1232h.		
30	<u>students t</u>	under u	<u>ie 1 10iec</u>	"Part 6. Reporting Requirements.		
31	"8 115C-	76 70	Report	ing requirements.		
32	(a)			school unit shall report annually by September 15 the following		
33				Board of Education in a format designated by the State Board:		
34	momuu	<u>(1)</u>		nost current version of the policies and procedures adopted as required		
35		<u>\/</u>		is Article with any modifications of the policy or procedure from the		
36				year's submission clearly delineated.		
37		<u>(2)</u>		ollowing information from the prior school year:		
38		<u> </u>	<u>a.</u>	The number of appeals to the governing body under G.S. 115C-76.40		
39				and the percentage of appeals decided in favor of the parent and in		
40				favor of the administration in the prior school year.		
41			<u>b.</u>	The number of statements provided to parents as required by		
42				G.S. 115C-76.60(a).		
43			<u>c.</u>	The number of parental concern hearings involving the public school		
44				unit as provided in G.S. 115C-76.60(b)(1).		
45			<u>d.</u>	The number of actions brought against the public school unit as		
46				provided in G.S. 115C-76.60(b)(2) and the number of declaratory		
47				judgments entered against the public school unit.		
48	<u>(b)</u>	The S	State Bo	pard of Education shall report annually by November 15 to the Joint		
49				Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Commission on		
50	Corrorm	antal O	naration	us on the following:		

- (1) A summary of each data point received from public school units pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.
 - (2) <u>Identification of any trends in noncompliance.</u>
 - (3) An appendix of each public school unit's report."

SECTION 2.(b) G.S. 115C-150.16, as enacted by S.L. 2023-10, reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-150.16. Applicability of Chapter.

Except as otherwise provided in this Article, Article and Article 7B of this Chapter, the requirements of this Chapter shall not apply to the schools for the deaf and blind. Schools for the deaf and blind shall be considered a State agency, as defined in G.S. 143C-1-1, and shall comply with all requirements for State agencies unless otherwise specified in this Article. Schools for the deaf and blind shall not be considered local school administrative units."

SECTION 2.(c) G.S. 115C-218.10 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-218.10. Charter school exemptions.

Except as provided in this Article <u>and Article 7B of this Chapter</u>, and pursuant to the provisions of its charter, a charter school is exempt from statutes and rules applicable to a local board of education or local school administrative unit."

SECTION 2.(d) G.S. 115C-238.60(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Except as otherwise provided in this Part, Part and Article 7B of this Chapter, a regional school is exempt from statutes and rules applicable to a local board of education or local school administrative unit."

SECTION 2.(e) G.S. 115C-402.15 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-402.15. Parental notification regarding rights to student records and opt-out opportunities.

- (a) Annual Parental Notification. Local boards of education shall annually provide parents, by a method reasonably designed to provide actual notice, information on parental rights under State and federal law with regards to student records and opt-out opportunities for disclosure of directory information as provided under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and notice and opt-out-opt-in opportunities for surveys covered by G.S. 115C-76.65 and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. § 1232h.
- (b) Notice Content. The notice shall include information on parental rights under State and federal law to:
 - (1) Inspect and review education records.
 - (2) Seek to amend inaccurate education records.
 - (3) Provide written consent prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records, except as otherwise provided by law. Information shall be included on disclosure of directory information and parental rights to opt out of disclosure of directory information.
 - (4) File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
 - (5) Receive notice and the opportunity to opt out opt in prior to the participation of the student in a protected information survey under G.S. 115C-76.65 and 20 U.S.C. § 1232h."

SECTION 2.(f) G.S. 116-239.5(d) reads as rewritten:

- "(d) Except as otherwise provided in this Article, Article and Article 7B of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes, the Subcommittee, the chancellor of each constituent institution that operates a laboratory school, and the laboratory school are exempt from statutes and rules applicable to a local board of education or local school administrative unit."
- **SECTION 2.(g)** Section 6(d) of S.L. 2018-32 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:
 - "(3a) Article 7B, Public School Unit Requirements."

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SECTION 2.(h) By June 30, 2024, the Department of Public Instruction shall review and update, as necessary, all of the following in accordance with this act:

- (1) School counseling frameworks and standards.
- (2) Educator practices and professional conduct principles.
- (3) Other student services and school personnel guidelines, standards, or frameworks.

SECTION 2.(i) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

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PART III. PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION FOR HEALTH CARE OF MINORS

SECTION 3.(a) Article 1A of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Part to read:

"Part 3. Parental Consent for Treatment.

"§ 90-21.10A. Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this Article:

- (1), (2) Reserved for future codification purposes.
- (3) Health care facility. A health care facility, licensed under Chapter 131E or 122C of the General Statutes, where health care services are provided to patients, including:
 - a. An agent or employee of the health care facility that is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to provide health care services.
 - <u>b.</u> The officers and directors of a health care facility.
- (4) Health care practitioner. An individual who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under this Chapter, Chapter 90B, Chapter 90C, or Chapter 115C of the General Statutes to provide health care services in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession or in an approved education or training program, or an agent or employee of that individual.
- (5) Minor. Any person under the age of 18 who has not been married or has not been emancipated pursuant to Article 35 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes.
- (6) Parent. A minor's parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis. A person standing in loco parentis is a person who has assumed parental responsibilities, including support and maintenance of the minor.
- (7) Treatment. Any medical procedure or treatment, including X-rays, the administration of drugs, blood transfusions, use of anesthetics, and laboratory or other diagnostic procedures employed by or ordered by a health care practitioner, that is used, employed, or ordered to be used or employed commensurate with the exercise of reasonable care and equal to the standards of medical practice normally employed in the community where the health care practitioner administers treatment to the minor child.

"§ 90-21.10B. Parental consent for treatment.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Article or by court order, a health care practitioner shall not provide, solicit, or arrange treatment for a minor child without first obtaining written or documented consent from that minor child's parent.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this Article or by court order, a health care facility shall not allow treatment to be performed on a minor child in its facility without first obtaining written or documented consent from that minor child's parent.
- (c) This section does not apply to services provided by a clinical laboratory unless the services are delivered through a direct encounter with the minor child at the clinical laboratory facility.

"§ 90-21.10C. Penalty.

A health care practitioner or other person that violates this section is subject to disciplinary action by the board that licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized the health care practitioner to provide treatment, including a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000)."

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SECTION 3.(b) This section becomes effective December 1, 2023, and applies to violations committed on or after that date.

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PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 4. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective July 1, 2023.

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