

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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SENATE BILL 463

Short Title: Low Performing School Units.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Perdue and Royall.

Referred to: Education.

April 1, 1991

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE STATE ASSISTANCE AND INTERVENTION IN LOW
3 PERFORMING SCHOOL UNITS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Subchapter II of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended
6 by adding a new Article to read:

7 **“ARTICLE 6A.**

8 **“STATE ASSISTANCE AND INTERVENTION IN LOW**
9 **PERFORMING SCHOOL UNITS.**

10 **“§ 115C-64.1. Identification of low performing school units.**

11 The State Board of Education shall annually identify low performing local school
12 administrative units. Low performing local school administrative units are units in
13 which (i) student performance measures are substantially below, as defined by the State
14 Board, those reported by units with similar demographic characteristics and (ii) student
15 dropout rates are substantially higher than, as defined by the State Board, the average
16 statewide rate.

17 **“§ 115C-64.2. Development of plans to improve student performance and decrease**
18 **dropout rates.**

19 (a) Each identified local school administrative unit shall submit to the State
20 Board of Education a plan for improving student performance and decreasing dropout
21 rates. The plan may include requests for the State Board to waive State laws and
22 regulations so as to grant the unit the fiscal and programmatic flexibility necessary to
23 implement the plan. The State Board may grant such waivers if it finds that the waivers

1 are necessary and appropriate for the unit to improve student performance and decrease
2 dropout rates.

3 (b) The Department of Public Instruction shall contact each identified unit,
4 notify it of the services available through the Department to assist the unit in developing
5 its plan and in improving student performance and decreasing dropout rates, and assist
6 the unit in developing and implementing its plan.

7 **"§ 115C-64.3. Notification of parents and the general public.**

8 (a) Each identified unit shall notify the parents of students attending schools in
9 the unit that the State Board of Education has found that (i) student performance
10 measures in the unit are substantially below those reported by units with similar
11 demographic characteristics and (ii) students' dropout rates are substantially higher than
12 the average statewide rate.

13 (b) The Department of Public Instruction shall prepare and release a report for
14 each identified unit. The report shall include the identified unit's description of the steps
15 it is taking to improve student performance measures and reduce student dropout rates.

16 **"§ 115C-64.4. Review of plans by the State Board; appointment of caretakers.**

17 The State Board shall annually review the progress made in identified units. If the
18 State Board finds that a unit has not made satisfactory progress, as defined by the State
19 Board, the State Board shall appoint a caretaker administrator and a caretaker board.

20 **"§ 115C-64.5. Adoption of rules.**

21 Prior to December 1, 1991, the State Board of Education shall adopt rules, policies,
22 and procedures to implement this Article, including rules policies, and procedures for (i)
23 providing identified districts with assistance in developing and implementing
24 improvement plans, (ii) approving waivers of State laws and regulations as necessary
25 and appropriate to implement improvement plans, (iii) determining when caretaker
26 administrators and boards shall be appointed, (iv) appointing caretaker administrators
27 and boards, and (v) determining the term of caretaker administrators and boards."

28 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification.