

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

EXTRA SESSION 1994

H

1

HOUSE BILL 58

Short Title: Apprenticeship Program Grants.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Wilson.

Referred to: Education.

February 9, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE GRANTS FOR LOCALLY DESIGNED PROGRAMS TO
2 REDUCE CRIME BY PROVIDING A SCHOOL/WORK APPRENTICESHIP
3 PROGRAM FOR YOUTHS IN HIGH SCHOOLS THAT SERVE LOW-INCOME,
4 HIGH-CRIME AREAS.
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Aid to Local
8 School Administrative Units, the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) for
9 the 1994-95 fiscal year to provide grants for local school administrative units for locally
10 designed innovative local programs to reduce crime by providing a school/work
11 apprenticeship program for youths in high schools that serve low-income, high-crime
12 areas. These funds shall be used for 20 five-year grants of from twenty thousand dollars
13 (\$20,000) to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year to local school administrative
14 units. No more than fifteen percent (15%) of the funds each year shall be spent for
15 administration of the program at the local level.

16 A single local school administrative unit may apply for a grant or two or
17 more adjacent local school administrative units may apply jointly for a grant for one or
18 more of their schools that serve high school- and middle school-aged students.
19 Applicants for grants shall submit to the State Board of Education an application that
20 includes the following information:

- 21 (1) Data on the socioeconomic status, unemployment rates, and crime
22 rates in the neighborhoods in which the youths who attend the target
23 schools live, and the dropout and attendance rates for the target high
24 schools.

- 1 (2) A detailed plan for a school/work apprenticeship program that will
2 provide high school-aged youths with apprenticeships in local
3 businesses and industry and with academic training that is directly
4 applicable to the job training that they are receiving at work.
- 5 (3) A detailed plan for a program that will provide middle school-aged
6 students with career counseling and curriculum planning assistance
7 that will prepare them for employment.
- 8 (4) A statement of how the grant funds will be used to enhance and
9 encourage existing programs to serve these youths.
- 10 (5) A statement of how the grant funds will be used in conjunction with
11 existing State, federal, and local resources, and of any additional local
12 funds or services that will be committed to the program.

13 In reviewing grant applications, the State Board of Education shall consider
14 the severity of the local problems with regard to crime and the likelihood that the locally
15 designed plan will provide a meaningful school/work apprenticeship program for
16 students at the targeted schools. The State Board of Education shall attempt to award
17 grants to local school administrative units that are located geographically throughout the
18 State, that use existing resources meaningfully for vocational programs to serve these
19 youths, and that are making strong local commitments to vocational programs to serve
20 these youths. The State Board shall select grant recipients prior to January 1, 1995.

21 The State Board of Education shall contract with a private consultant to
22 evaluate the program in July of 1997 and in July of 1998. The evaluations shall include
23 an analysis of the employability of the youths who participate in the program, their
24 success at their careers, and testing results and graduation rates for their schools. The
25 State Board shall report the results of the evaluations immediately after receiving them
26 to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

27 The State Board of Education shall report on how the funds are being used to
28 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee prior to November 1 of each year
29 of the program. The State Board may report at any time to the Joint Legislative
30 Education Oversight Committee on any recommended changes to the grant program.

31 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.