

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 745

Short Title: Charter Schools/Transport/Food Services. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Brandon and Harrison (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Education.

April 11, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHARTER SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION AND
3 FOOD SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME STUDENTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-238.29B(b) reads as rewritten:

6 "(b) The application shall contain at least the following information:

7 ...

8 (15) The school's plans for providing transportation. The school shall develop a
9 plan for transportation for any student enrolled in the charter school who
10 resides within three miles of the charter school and whose household income
11 makes the student eligible for the free and reduced lunch program as
12 established by the federal government.

13 (16) The school's plans for providing food services. The school shall develop a
14 plan for food services for any student enrolled in the charter school whose
15 household income makes the student eligible for the free and reduced lunch
16 program as established by the federal government."

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-238.29F reads as rewritten:

18 "§ 115C-238.29F. **General requirements.**

19 ...

20 (h) Transportation. – The charter school may provide transportation for students
21 enrolled at the school. The charter school shall ~~develop a transportation plan so that~~
22 ~~transportation is not a barrier to provide transportation for any student enrolled in the charter~~
23 ~~school who resides in the local school administrative unit in which the school is located within~~
24 ~~three miles of the charter school and whose household income makes the student eligible for~~
25 ~~the free and reduced lunch program as established by the federal government. The charter~~
26 ~~school is not required to provide transportation to any student who lives within one and~~
27 ~~one-half miles of the school.~~ At the request of the charter school and if the local board of the
28 local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located operates a school bus
29 system, then that local board may contract with the charter school to provide transportation in
30 accordance with the charter school's transportation plan to students who reside in the local
31 school administrative unit and who reside at least one and one-half miles ~~off~~from the charter
32 school. A local board may charge the charter school a reasonable charge that is sufficient to
33 cover the cost of providing this transportation. Furthermore, a local board may refuse to
34 provide transportation under this subsection if it demonstrates there is no available space on



1 buses it intends to operate during the term of the contract or it would not be practically feasible
2 to provide this transportation.

3 (h1) Food Services. – The charter school shall provide food services to students whose
4 household income makes the student eligible for the free and reduced lunch program as
5 established by the federal government. The State Board of Education may waive this
6 requirement upon a showing of financial hardship by the charter school. In the operation of
7 their food service programs, charter schools may participate in the National School Lunch
8 Program established by the federal government. The program shall be under the jurisdiction of
9 the Division of School Support, Child Nutrition Services of the Department of Public
10 Instruction, and shall be operated in accordance with federal guidelines as established by the
11 Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

12"

13 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies only to charter
14 schools granted a new or renewed charter on or after July 1, 2013.