

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

**SESSION LAW 2009-213
HOUSE BILL 88**

AN ACT TO DIRECT LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS TO PROVIDE
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION IN GRADES SEVEN
THROUGH NINE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known as the "Healthy Youth Act of 2009."

SECTION 2. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(1)l. reads as rewritten:

"l. ~~Abstinence until marriage education; Reproductive health and safety education; and~~".

SECTION 3. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(3) is repealed.

SECTION 4. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(4) reads as rewritten:

"(4) ~~The State Board of Education shall evaluate abstinence until marriage curricula and their learning materials and shall develop and maintain a recommended list of one or more approved abstinence until marriage curricula. The State Board may develop an abstinence until marriage program to include on the recommended list. The State Board of Education shall not select or develop a program for inclusion on the recommended list that does not include the positive benefits of abstinence until marriage and the risks of premarital sexual activity as the primary focus. The State Board shall include on the recommended list only programs that include, in appropriate grades and classes, instruction that: Each local school administrative unit shall provide a reproductive health and safety education program commencing in the seventh grade that includes the following instruction:~~

- a. ~~Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children;children.~~
- b. ~~Presents techniques and strategies to deal with peer pressure and offering positive reinforcement;reinforcement.~~
- c. ~~Presents reasons, skills, and strategies for remaining or becoming abstinent from sexual activity;activity.~~
- d. ~~Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain means of avoiding out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases when transmitted through sexual contact, including HIV/AIDS, and other associated health and emotional problems;problems.~~
- e. ~~Teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous heterosexual relationship in the context of marriage is the best lifelong means of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;HIV/AIDS.~~
- f. ~~Teaches the positive benefits of abstinence until marriage and the risks of premarital sexual activity;activity.~~
- g. ~~Provides opportunities that allow for interaction between the parent or legal guardian and the student; and student.~~
- h. ~~Provides factually accurate biological or pathological information that is related to the human reproductive system.~~

Materials used in this instruction shall be age appropriate for use with students. Information conveyed during the instruction shall be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by



professionals and credentialed experts in the field of sexual health education."

SECTION 5. G.S. 115C-81(e1) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(4a) Each local school administrative unit shall also include as part of the instruction required under subdivision (4) of this subsection the following instruction:

- a. Teaches about sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include the rates of infection among pre-teen and teens of each known sexually transmitted disease and the effects of contracting each sexually transmitted disease. In particular, the instruction shall include information about the effects of contracting the Human Papilloma Virus, including sterility and cervical cancer.
- b. Teaches about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy.
- c. Teaches awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and risk reduction. The instruction and materials shall:
 1. Focus on healthy relationships.
 2. Teach students what constitutes sexual assault and sexual abuse, the causes of those behaviors, and risk reduction.
 3. Inform students about resources and reporting procedures if they experience sexual assault or sexual abuse.
 4. Examine common misconceptions and stereotypes about sexual assault and sexual abuse.

Materials used in this instruction shall be age appropriate for use with students. Information conveyed during the instruction shall be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by professionals and credentialed experts in the field of sexual health education. Each local board of education shall adopt a policy and provide a mechanism to allow a parent or a guardian to withdraw his or her child from instruction required under this subdivision."

SECTION 6. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(5) reads as rewritten:

"(5) The State Board of Education shall make available to all local school administrative units for review by the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled at that unit any State-developed objectives for instruction, any approved textbooks, the list of reviewed materials, and any other State-developed or approved materials that pertain to or are intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy, or to the ~~abstinence until marriage curriculum~~ reproductive health and safety education curriculum. The review period shall extend for at least 60 days before use."

SECTION 7. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(6) is repealed.

SECTION 8. G.S. 115C-81(e1)(7) reads as rewritten:

"(7) Each school year, before students may participate in any portion of (i) a program that pertains to or is intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, or to the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy, ~~(ii) an abstinence until marriage program, or (iii) a comprehensive sex or~~ (ii) a reproductive health and safety education program, whether developed by the State or by the local board of education, the parents and legal guardians of those students shall be given an opportunity to review the objectives and materials. Local boards of education shall adopt policies to provide opportunities either for parents and

legal guardians to consent or for parents and legal guardians to withhold their consent to the students' participation in any or all of these programs."

SECTION 9. G.S. 115C-81(e1) is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(11) Each local school administrative unit shall provide a comprehensive school health education program that meets all the requirements of this subsection and all the objectives established by the State Board. Each local board of education may expand on the subject areas to be included in the program and on the instructional objectives to be met."

SECTION 10. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 25th day of June, 2009.

s/ Walter H. Dalton
President of the Senate

s/ Joe Hackney
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Beverly E. Perdue
Governor

Approved 5:28 p.m. this 30th day of June, 2009