

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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SENATE BILL 344*
Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/11/89

Short Title: Comprehensive Health Education.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 6, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MANDATE COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO INCLUDE IN THAT CURRICULUM FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, PREGNANCY PREVENTION EDUCATION, AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-81(e) reads as rewritten:

"(e) ~~School Health Education Program~~ Comprehensive Health Education Program to Be Developed and Administered.—

(1) A ~~comprehensive school health education~~ comprehensive health education program shall be developed and taught to pupils of the public schools of this State from kindergarten through ~~ninth~~ twelfth grade. ~~This program shall be developed over a 10-year period beginning July 1, 1978.~~

(2) As used above, "~~comprehensive school health~~" 'comprehensive health education' means health education in a school setting that is planned and carried out with the purpose of maintaining, reinforcing, or enhancing the health, health-related skills, and health attitudes and practices of children and youth that are conducive to their good health and that promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease prevention. It includes age-appropriate, sequential instruction in health either as part of existing courses or as a special course. It includes the subject matter of mental and emotional health, drug and

1 alcohol abuse prevention, suicide prevention, nutrition, dental health,
2 environmental health, ~~family living,~~ family life education, reproductive
3 health education, pregnancy prevention education, consumer health,
4 disease control, growth and development, first aid and emergency care,
5 and any like subject matter.

6 (2a) 'Family life education' means instruction intended to:

- 7 a. Develop an understanding of the physical, mental, emotional,
8 social, economic, and psychological aspects of close personal
9 relationships and an understanding of the physiological,
10 psychological, and cultural foundations of human development;
11 b. Provide instruction that will support the development of
12 responsible personal values and behavior and aid in establishing
13 a strong family life for themselves in the future and emphasize
14 the responsibilities of marriage;
15 c. Provide instruction in sexually transmitted diseases, including
16 instruction in the prevention of Acquired Immune Deficiency
17 Syndrome (AIDS) as required in subsection (a2);
18 d. Provide instruction as to the laws of this State relating to sexual
19 conduct of minors, including criminal sexual conduct.

20 (2b) 'Pregnancy prevention education' means instruction intended to:

- 21 a. Stress the importance of abstaining from sexual activity until
22 marriage;
23 b. Help students develop skills to enable them to abstain from
24 sexual intercourse, make responsible sexual decisions based on
25 values and knowledge, and resist negative pressures;
26 c. Explain methods of contraception, and the risks and benefits of
27 each method.

28 (2c) 'Reproductive health education' means instruction in human
29 physiology, conception, prenatal care and development, childbirth, and
30 postnatal care.

31 (3) The development and administration of this program shall be the
32 responsibility of each local school administrative unit in the State, a
33 local school health education coordinator for each county, the Department
34 of Public Instruction, and a State School-Comprehensive Health
35 Education Advisory Committee. Each local school administrative unit
36 shall develop a program of instruction in comprehensive health
37 education, including family life education, pregnancy prevention
38 education, and reproductive health education for all grades
39 kindergarten through twelfth grade with age-appropriate content
40 reflecting the needs of children at each grade level. In developing the
41 program, the local school administrative unit shall be advised by a
42 local advisory committee appointed by the local board of education.
43 The local school administrative unit may use the curriculum and

1 materials developed by the State Department of Public Instruction or
2 the equivalent approved by the State Board of Education.

3 (3a) Pursuant to policies and guidelines which shall be adopted by the local
4 board of education, public school principals shall develop a method of
5 notifying parents of students in the relevant grades of the content of
6 the instructional materials concerning reproductive health, family life,
7 pregnancy prevention, and of their option to exempt their child without
8 penalty or embarrassment from this instruction.

9 (4) ~~Each existing local school administrative unit is eligible to develop~~
10 ~~and submit a plan for a comprehensive school health education~~
11 ~~program which shall meet all standards established by the State Board~~
12 ~~of Education, and to apply for funds to execute such plans. Each local~~
13 ~~school administrative unit is eligible to apply for a State-funded school~~
14 ~~health coordinator.~~

15 (5) The Department of Public Instruction shall supervise the development
16 and operation of a statewide comprehensive ~~school~~ health education
17 program including curriculum development, the establishment and
18 monitoring of expectations, goals, and outcomes, in-service training
19 provision and promotion of collegiate training, learning material
20 review, and assessment and evaluation of local programs ~~in the same~~
21 ~~manner as for other programs.~~ It is the intent of this legislation that a
22 specific position or positions in the Department of Public Instruction
23 shall be assigned responsibilities as set forth in this subsection.

24 (6) A State ~~School~~ Comprehensive Health Advisory Committee is hereby
25 established.

26 a. The committee shall provide citizen input into the operations of
27 the program, report annually to the State Board of Education on
28 progress in accomplishing the provisions and intent of this
29 legislation, provide advice to the department with regard to its
30 duties under this subsection, and encourage development of
31 higher education programs which would benefit health
32 education in the public schools.

33 b. The committee shall meet as necessary but at least twice
34 annually. It shall select annually a chairperson from among its
35 own membership, each member having an equal vote and the
36 chairperson shall appoint such subcommittees as may be
37 necessary. Members of the committee shall serve without
38 compensation; however, they shall be reimbursed by the
39 Department of Public Instruction for travel and other expenses
40 incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the
41 committee, to the extent that funds are appropriated for this
42 purpose.

43 c. The committee shall consist of ~~17-15~~ members: 10 appointed by
44 the Governor, two by the State Board of Education, ~~one by the~~

1 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, one by the President of the~~
2 ~~Senate,~~ and three ex officio members: the Chief, Office of
3 Health Education, Department of Human Resources; the Chief,
4 State Health Planning and Development Agency, Department of
5 Human Resources; and the Superintendent of Public
6 Instruction, or their designees. The Governor's appointees shall
7 be named in the following manner: one physician from a list of
8 three names submitted by the North Carolina Medical Society;
9 one physician from a list of three names submitted by the North
10 Carolina Pediatric Society; one physician from a list of three
11 names submitted by the North Carolina Chiropractic
12 Association; one registered nurse from a list of three names
13 submitted by the North Carolina Nurses' Association; one
14 dentist from a list of three names submitted by the North
15 Carolina Dental Society; one member from a list of three names
16 submitted by the North Carolina Medical Auxiliary; one
17 member from a list of three names submitted by the North
18 Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.; one member
19 from a list of three names submitted by the North Carolina
20 Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; one
21 member from a list of three names submitted by the North
22 Carolina Public Health Association; one member from a list of
23 three names submitted by the North Carolina College
24 Conference on Professional Preparation in Health and Physical
25 Education. The State Board nominees shall represent local
26 school administrative units and shall have been recommended
27 by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. ~~The Speaker's~~
28 ~~nominee shall be a member of the North Carolina House of~~
29 ~~Representatives and the President of the Senate's nominee shall be a~~
30 ~~member of the Senate.~~

- 31 d. The appointed members of the advisory committee shall serve
32 for a term of three years. Appointed members may be
33 reappointed up to a maximum of nine years of service.
34 Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original
35 appointments for the balance of the unexpired term."

36 Sec. 2. Effective when the components of the standard course of study have
37 been fully incorporated and implemented as a part of the Basic Education Program, G.S.
38 115C-81(e) reads as rewritten:

39 "~~(e) School Health Education Program—Comprehensive Health Education Program to~~
40 ~~Be Developed and Administered.~~

- 41 (1) A ~~comprehensive school health education—~~comprehensive health
42 education program shall be developed and taught to pupils of the
43 public schools of this State from kindergarten through ~~ninth—~~twelfth
44 grade.

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 2 education' means health education in a school setting that is planned
 3 and carried out with the purpose of maintaining, reinforcing, or
 4 enhancing the health, health-related skills, and health attitudes and
 5 practices of children and youth that are conducive to their good health
 6 and that promote wellness, health maintenance, and disease
 7 prevention. It includes age-appropriate, sequential instruction in health
 8 either as part of existing courses or as a special course. It includes the
 9 subject matter of mental and emotional health, drug and alcohol abuse
 10 prevention, suicide prevention, nutrition, dental health, environmental
 11 health, family living, family life education, reproductive health
 12 education, pregnancy prevention education, consumer health, disease
 13 control, growth and development, first aid and emergency care, and
 14 any like subject matter. ~~Comprehensive school health~~It also includes
 15 the subject matter of bicycle safety in geographical areas where
 16 appropriate.
- 17 (2a) 'Family life education' means instruction intended to:
 18 a. Develop an understanding of the physical, mental, emotional,
 19 social, economic, and psychological aspects of close personal
 20 relationships and an understanding of the physiological,
 21 psychological, and cultural foundations of human development;
 22 b. Provide instruction that will support the development of
 23 responsible personal values and behavior and aid in establishing
 24 a strong family life for themselves in the future and emphasize
 25 the responsibilities of marriage;
 26 c. Provide instruction in sexually transmitted diseases, including
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 30 conduct of minors, including criminal sexual conduct.
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 38 each method.
- 39 (2c) 'Reproductive health education' means instruction in human
 40 physiology, conception, prenatal care and development, childbirth, and
 41 postnatal care.
- 42 (3) The development and administration of this program shall be the
 43 responsibility of each local school administrative unit in the State ~~that~~
 44 ~~receives an allocation of State funds for a school health coordinator, a school~~

1 ~~health education coordinator who serves the local school administrative unit,~~
2 ~~the Department of Public Instruction, and a State School~~
3 ~~Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Committee. Each local~~
4 ~~school administrative unit shall develop a program of instruction in~~
5 ~~comprehensive health education, including family life education,~~
6 ~~pregnancy prevention education, and reproductive health education for~~
7 ~~all grades kindergarten through twelfth grade with age-appropriate~~
8 ~~content reflecting the needs of children at each grade level. In~~
9 ~~developing the program, the local school administrative unit shall be~~
10 ~~advised by a local advisory committee appointed by the local board of~~
11 ~~education. The local school administrative unit may use the curriculum~~
12 ~~and materials developed by the State Department of Public Instruction~~
13 ~~or the equivalent approved by the State Board of Education.~~

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15 board of education, public school principals shall develop a method of
16 notifying parents of students in the relevant grades of the content of
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18 pregnancy prevention, and of their option to exempt their child without
19 penalty or embarrassment from this instruction.

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21 ~~and submit a plan for a comprehensive school health education~~
22 ~~program which shall meet all standards established by the State Board~~
23 ~~of Education, and to apply for funds to execute such plans. Each local~~
24 ~~school administrative unit is eligible to apply for a State-funded school~~
25 ~~health coordinator.~~

26 The State Board of Education shall designate an impartial panel to review
27 health education program plans submitted by local school
28 administrative units. Based on the panel's evaluation of the plans, the
29 State Board of Education shall allocate ~~the~~ State-funded school health
30 coordinators. Where feasible, a school health coordinator shall serve
31 more than one local school administrative unit.

32 Each person initially employed as a State-funded school health
33 coordinator after June 30, 1987, shall have a degree in health
34 education.

35 (5) The Department of Public Instruction shall supervise the development
36 and operation of a statewide comprehensive ~~school~~ health education
37 program including curriculum development, the establishment and
38 monitoring of expectations, goals, and outcomes, in-service training
39 provision and promotion of collegiate training, learning material
40 review, and assessment and evaluation of local programs ~~in the same~~
41 ~~manner as for other programs.~~ It is the intent of this legislation that a
42 specific position or positions in the Department of Public Instruction
43 shall be assigned responsibilities as set forth in this subsection.

- 1 (6) A State School ~~Comprehensive~~ Health Advisory Committee is hereby
2 established.
- 3 a. The committee shall provide citizen input into the operations of
4 the program, report annually to the State Board of Education on
5 progress in accomplishing the provisions and intent of this
6 legislation, provide advice to the department with regard to its
7 duties under this subsection, and encourage development of
8 higher education programs which would benefit health
9 education in the public schools.
- 10 b. The committee shall meet as necessary but at least twice
11 annually. It shall select annually a chairperson from among its
12 own membership, each member having an equal vote and the
13 chairperson shall appoint such subcommittees as may be
14 necessary. Members of the committee shall serve without
15 compensation; however, they shall be reimbursed by the
16 Department of Public Instruction for travel and other expenses
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18 committee, to the extent that funds are appropriated for this
19 purpose.
- 20 c. The committee shall consist of ~~17-15~~ members: 10 appointed by
21 the Governor, two by the State Board of Education, ~~one by the~~
22 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, one by the President of the~~
23 ~~Senate,~~ and three ex officio members: the Chief, Office of
24 Health Education, Department of Human Resources; the Chief,
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26 Human Resources; and the Superintendent of Public
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43 Carolina Public Health Association; one member from a list of
44 three names submitted by the North Carolina College

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7 ~~member of the Senate.~~

- 8 d. The appointed members of the advisory committee shall serve
9 for a term of three years. Appointed members may be
10 reappointed up to a maximum of nine years of service.
11 Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original
12 appointments for the balance of the unexpired term."

13 Sec. 3. The Department of Public Instruction shall have available for all local
14 school administrative units an updated Comprehensive Health Education curriculum in
15 accordance with this act by the beginning of the 1990-91 school year. All local school
16 administrative units shall have developed and shall begin implementing the
17 Comprehensive Health Education curriculum in accordance with this act by the
18 beginning of the 1991-92 school year. The State Board of Education, in fulfilling its
19 duty under this act to review and approve local curricula, shall schedule its work in such
20 a way as to facilitate the meeting of the deadline for local school administrative units
21 established in this section.

22 Sec. 4. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective upon ratification.