

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 1577

Short Title: School Textbook Law Changes/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Winner of Mecklenburg.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

May 25, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS REGARDING TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ADOPTED BY THE STATE FOR USE IN THE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE EVALUATION
OF TEXTBOOKS BY THE TEXTBOOK COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-85 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-85. Textbook needs are determined by course of study.

When the State Board of Education has adopted, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, a standard course of study at each instructional level in the elementary school and the secondary school, setting forth what subjects shall be taught at each level, it shall proceed to select and adopt textbooks.

As used in this part, 'textbook' means systematically organized material comprehensive enough to cover the primary objectives outlined in the standard course of study for a grade or course. Formats for textbooks may be print or nonprint, including hardbound books, softbound books, activity-oriented programs, classroom kits, and technology-based programs that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

Textbooks adopted in accordance with the provisions of this Part shall be used by the public schools of the State."

Sec. 2. G.S. 115C-88 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-88. Commission to evaluate ~~books~~ textbooks offered for adoption.

The members of the Commission who are teachers, principals or the parent of students ~~in the elementary grades~~ shall evaluate all textbooks offered for adoption ~~in the~~

1 elementary grades. The members who are teachers, principals or the parent of students in the
2 high schools shall evaluate all books offered for adoption in the high school grades. adoption.

3 Each member shall examine carefully and file a written evaluation of each ~~book~~
4 textbook offered for adoption in the category for which he is responsible. adoption.

5 The evaluation report shall give special consideration to the suitability of the ~~book~~
6 textbook to the instructional level for which it is offered, the content or subject matter,
7 and other criteria prescribed by the Board.

8 Each evaluation report shall be signed by the member making the report and filed
9 with the Board not later than a day fixed by the Board when the call for adoption is
10 made."

11 Sec. 3. G.S. 115C-99 reads as rewritten:

12 "**§ 115C-99. Legal custodians of ~~books~~ textbooks furnished by State.**

13 Local boards of education are the custodians of all ~~books furnished by the State.~~
14 textbooks purchased by the local boards with State funds. They shall provide adequate
15 and safe storage facilities for the proper care of these ~~books~~ textbooks and emphasize to
16 all students the necessity for proper care of textbooks."

17 Sec. 4. G.S. 115C-100 reads as rewritten:

18 "**§ 115C-100. Rental fees for textbooks prohibited; damage fees authorized.**

19 No local board of education may charge any pupil a rental fee for the use of
20 textbooks. A pupil's parents or legal guardians may be charged damage fees for abuse or
21 loss of textbooks under rules adopted by the State Board of Education. All money
22 collected ~~on State-owned books as damage fees or~~ from the sale of ~~books~~ textbooks
23 purchased with State funds under the provisions of this Part shall be paid annually as
24 collected to the State Board of Education."

25 Sec. 5. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
26 Public Instruction the sum of ninety-seven thousand seven hundred ten dollars
27 (\$97,710) for the 1994-95 fiscal year for the evaluation of textbooks by the Textbook
28 Commission.

29 Sec. 6. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.