

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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HOUSE BILL 1150

Short Title: Sch. Improvement Team Reps. Elected.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Jeffus; and Wainwright.

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Referred to: Education.

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April 15, 1999

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF SCHOOL  
3 IMPROVEMENT TEAMS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 115C-105.27 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 115C-105.27. Development and approval of school improvement plans.**

7 In order to improve student performance, each school shall develop a school  
8 improvement plan that takes into consideration the annual performance goal for that  
9 school that is set by the State Board under G.S. 115C-105.35. The principal of each  
10 school, representatives of the assistant principals, instructional personnel, instructional  
11 support personnel, and teacher assistants assigned to the school building, and parents of  
12 children enrolled in the school shall constitute a school improvement team to develop a  
13 school improvement plan to improve student performance. Representatives of the  
14 assistant principals, instructional personnel, instructional support personnel, and teacher  
15 assistants shall be elected by their respective groups by secret ballot. Unless the local  
16 board of education has adopted an election policy, parents shall be elected by parents of  
17 children enrolled in the school in an election conducted by the parent and teacher  
18 organization of the school or, if none exists, by the largest organization of parents formed  
19 for this purpose. Parents serving on school improvement teams shall reflect the racial and  
20 socioeconomic composition of the students enrolled in that school and shall not be  
21 members of the building-level staff. Parental involvement is a critical component of

1 school success and positive student achievement; therefore, it is the intent of the General  
2 Assembly that parents, along with teachers, have a substantial role in developing school  
3 improvement plans. To this end, school improvement team meetings shall be held at a  
4 convenient time to assure substantial parent participation. The strategies for improving  
5 student performance shall include a plan for the use of staff development funds that may  
6 be made available to the school by the local board of education to implement the school  
7 improvement plan and shall include a plan to address school safety and discipline  
8 concerns in accordance with the safe school plan developed under Article 8C of this  
9 Chapter. The strategies may include a decision to use State funds in accordance with G.S.  
10 115C-105.25. The strategies may also include requests for waivers of State laws, rules, or  
11 policies for that school. A request for a waiver shall meet the requirements of G.S. 115C-  
12 105.26.

13 Support among affected staff members is essential to successful implementation of a  
14 school improvement plan to address improved student performance at that school. The  
15 principal of the school shall present the proposed school improvement plan to all of the  
16 principals, assistant principals, instructional personnel, instructional support personnel,  
17 and teacher assistants assigned to the school building for their review and vote. The vote  
18 shall be by secret ballot. The principal shall submit the school improvement plan to the  
19 local board of education only if the proposed school improvement plan has the approval  
20 of a majority of the staff who voted on the plan.

21 The local board of education shall accept or reject the school improvement plan. The  
22 local board shall not make any substantive changes in any school improvement plan that  
23 it accepts. If the local board rejects a school improvement plan, the local board shall state  
24 with specificity its reasons for rejecting the plan; the school improvement team may then  
25 prepare another plan, present it to the principals, assistant principals, instructional  
26 personnel, instructional support personnel, and teacher assistants assigned to the school  
27 building for a vote, and submit it to the local board to accept or reject. If no school  
28 improvement plan is accepted for a school within 60 days after its initial submission to  
29 the local board, the school or the local board may ask to use the process to resolve  
30 disagreements recommended in the guidelines developed by the State Board under G.S.  
31 115C-105.20(b)(5). If this request is made, both the school and local board shall  
32 participate in the process to resolve disagreements. If there is no request to use that  
33 process, then the local board may develop a school improvement plan for the school. The  
34 General Assembly urges the local board to utilize the school's proposed school  
35 improvement plan to the maximum extent possible when developing such a plan.

36 A school improvement plan shall remain in effect for no more than three years;  
37 however, the school improvement team may amend the plan as often as is necessary or  
38 appropriate. If, at any time, any part of a school improvement plan becomes unlawful or  
39 the local board finds that a school improvement plan is impeding student performance at  
40 a school, the local board may vacate the relevant portion of the plan and may direct the  
41 school to revise that portion. The procedures set out in this subsection shall apply to  
42 amendments and revisions to school improvement plans."

1                   Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1999, and applies to school years  
2 beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.