

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE BILL 1543

Short Title: Reduce Paperwork in Public Schools.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Dalton.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

May 30, 2000

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REDUCE PAPERWORK IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THEREBY
SAVE TIME AND MONEY THAT CAN BE USED TO EDUCATE CHILDREN
AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO EXPEDITE PAPERWORK REDUCTION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-307(g) reads as rewritten:

"(g) To Make Required Reports. — ~~Every teacher of a public school shall make such reports as are~~ A teacher shall make all reports required by the boards of education, and the local board of education. The superintendent shall not approve the vouchers for the pay of teachers—voucher for a teacher's pay until the required monthly and annual reports are made: Provided, that the superintendents may require teachers—made.

The superintendent may require a teacher to make reports to the principals—principal.

A teacher shall be given access to information on the Student Information Management System to expedite the process of preparing reports or otherwise providing information. A teacher shall not be required by the local board, the superintendent, or the principal to (i) provide information that is already available on the Student Information Management System; (ii) provide the same information more than once during a school year; or (iii) complete forms regarding compliance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that are not required by the United States Department of Education. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a local board may

1 require information available on its Student Information Management System or require
2 the sam information twice if the local board can demonstrate a compelling need and can
3 demonstrate there is not a more expeditious manner of getting the information.

4 ~~Provided further, that any~~ Any teacher who knowingly and willfully makes or procures
5 another to make any false report or records, requisitions, or payrolls, respecting daily
6 attendance of pupils in the public schools, payroll data sheets, or other reports required to
7 be made to any board or officer in the performance of their duties, shall be guilty of a
8 Class 1 misdemeanor and the certificate of such person to teach in the public schools of
9 North Carolina shall be revoked by the Superintendent of Public Instruction."

10 Section 2. G.S. 115C-47(18) reads as rewritten:

11 "(18) To Make Rules Concerning the Conduct and Duties of Personnel. –
12 Local boards of education, upon the recommendation of the
13 superintendent, shall have full power to make all just and needful
14 rules and regulations governing the conduct of teachers, principals,
15 and supervisors, the kind of reports they shall make, and their duties
16 in the care of school property.

17 Prior to the beginning of each school year, each local board of
18 education shall identify all reports, including local school required
19 reports, that are required at the local level for the school ~~year-year~~ and
20 shall, to the maximum extent possible, eliminate any duplicate or
21 obsolete reporting requirements. No additional reports shall be required
22 at the local level after the beginning of the school year without the prior
23 approval of the local board of education.

24 Each local board of education shall also establish a paperwork
25 control committee to monitor all reports and other paperwork produced
26 by or required by the central office."

27 Section 3. The State Board of Education shall:

- 28 (1) Review requirements for reports from local school administrative
29 units and, to the extent possible, eliminate any duplicate or obsolete
30 reporting requirements;
- 31 (2) Develop a plan for the implementation of a paperless Student
32 Information Management System prior to the 2005-2006 school year
33 and request funds necessary for the implementation of the system;
- 34 (3) Work with the United States Department of Education to standardize
35 all forms required under the federal Individuals with Disabilities
36 Education Act (IDEA);
- 37 (4) Study the amount of State and local funds expended to meet
38 compliance standards established under IDEA and State law;
- 39 (5) Develop a plan to cut spending for compliance issues related to
40 special education by fifty percent (50%) for the 2001-2002 fiscal
41 year and to direct the savings to direct services for children with
42 special needs; and

1 (6) Develop a plan to fund compliance issues related to special
2 education only with federal funds provided specifically for that
3 purpose for the 2002-2003 fiscal year and to eliminate all State
4 funding for compliance issues.

5 The State Board shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
6 Committee prior to December 15, 2001, on its progress in implementing this section.

7 Section 4. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Board of
8 Education the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for the 2000-2001 fiscal year to
9 implement Section 3 of this act.

10 Section 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 2000.