GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2001

SENATE BILL 966

(Public)

Short Title: Modify Prof. Dev. Reports/Ed Oversight Study.	
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Sponsors:	Senators Dalton, Garrou, and Lucas.
Referred to:	Education/Higher Education.

April 5, 2001

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND BOARD OF
3	GOVERNORS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL
4	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND TO DIRECT THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE
5	EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND MAKE
6	RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN
7	NORTH CAROLINA.
8	Whereas, it is the policy of the State of North Carolina to continue to improve
9	student academic achievement; and
10	Whereas, research shows that well-trained teachers and school administrators
11	are critical to providing effective instruction to students; and
12	Whereas, the State has invested substantial funds to provide for professional
13	development programs for public school professionals; and
14	Whereas, the General Assembly has not received sufficient information to
15	demonstrate that the current use of funds for professional development is having a
16	positive impact on student achievement; and
17	Whereas, the current budget situation demands that the General Assembly be
18	assured that State funds are being used in an effective and efficient manner; Now,
19	therefore,
20	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
21	SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-12(26) reads as rewritten:
22	"§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.
23	The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be
24	vested in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish
25	policy for the system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General
26	Assembly. The powers and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as
27	follows:
28	•••

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1	(26)	Duty to Monitor and Make Recommendations Regarding
2		Professional Development Programs The State Board of
3		Education, in collaboration with the Board of Governors of The
4		University of North Carolina, shall identify and make
5		recommendations regarding meaningful professional development
6		programs for professional public school employees. The programs
7		shall be aligned with State education goals and directed toward
8		improving student academic achievement. Education shall identify
9		State and local needs for professional development for professional
10		public school employees based upon the State's educational
11		priorities for improving student achievement. The State Board also
12		shall recommend strategies for addressing these needs. The
13		strategies must be research-based, proven in practice, and designed
14		for data-driven evaluation. The State Board shall report its findings
15		and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
16		Committee, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker
17		of the House of Representatives, and the Board of Governors of
18		The University of North Carolina prior to January 15, 2002, and
19		shall review, revise, and resubmit those findings and
20		recommendations annually thereafter. The State Board shall
21		annually evaluate and, after consultation with the Board of
22		Governors, make recommendations regarding professional
23		development programs based upon the reports submitted by the
24		Board of Governors under G.S. 116-11(12a). G.S. 16-11(12a) to
25		determine whether the programs for professional development
26		provided by the Center for School Leadership Development
27		address the State and local needs identified by the State Board and
28		whether the programs are using the strategies recommended by the
29		State Board. Prior to January 15 th of each year, the State Board
30		shall report the results of its analysis to the Board of Governors and
31		to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.
32		
33	SECTIO	N 2. G.S. 116-11(12a) reads are rewritten:
34		and duties generally.
35		duties of the Board of Governors shall include the following:
36		
37	(12a) T	e-Notwithstanding any other law, the Board of Governors of The
38		niversity of North Carolina shall implement, administer, and revise
39		ograms for meaningful professional development for professional
40	-	iblic school employees based upon in accordance with the
41		valuations and recommendations made by the State Board of
42		lucation under G.S. 115C-12(26). The programs shall be aligned
43		ith State education goals and directed toward improving student
44		ademic achievement. The Board of Governors shall submit to the
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1	State Board of Education an annual report evaluating the professional		
2	development programs administered by the Board of Governors. The		
3	Board of Governors shall submit to the State Board of Education an		
4	annual written report that uses data to assess and evaluate the		
5	effectiveness of the programs for professional development offered by		
6	the Center for School Leadership Development. The report shall		
7	clearly document how the programs address the State needs identified		
8	by the State Board of Education and whether the programs are utilizing		
9	the strategies recommended by the State Board. The Board of		
10	Governors also shall submit this report to the Joint Legislative		
11	Education Oversight Committee, the President Pro Tempore of the		
12	Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives prior to		
13	September 15th of each year."		
14	SECTION 3.(a) The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall		
15	hire an independent consultant to study and make recommendations regarding		
16	professional development for public school professionals in North Carolina. The		
17	consultant shall study:		
18	(1) The professional development programs administered under the UNC		
19	Center for School Leadership Development with regard to their		
20	mission, governance structure, efficiency, and objectively measurable		
21	effectiveness in increasing student achievement.		
22	(2) The professional development support offered by the North Carolina		
23	Department of Public Instruction.		
24	(3) The use of professional development funds allocated to local school		
25	administrative units and individual schools.		
26	(4) National research regarding effective methods for delivering		
27	professional development that is shown to improve student		
28	achievement.		
29	The consultant shall report these findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight		
30	Committee and also shall make recommendations regarding how existing State funds		
31	should be utilized to provide effective and efficient professional development for public		
32	school professionals.		
33	SECTION 3.(b) The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall		
34	review the consultant's findings and recommendations and shall submit to the 2002		
35	Regular Session of the 2001 General Assembly recommendations to streamline,		
36	reorganize, and improve the delivery of professional development for public school		
37	professionals. The recommendations may address revisions to program governance and		
38	mission, reallocation of funds, methods of program delivery, and methods to institute		
39	ongoing program evaluation.		
40	SECTION 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.		