

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2003**

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**HOUSE DRH50318-RHz-11 (3/22)**

Short Title: Counselors in Alternative & Middle Schools. (Public)

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Sponsors: Representatives Preston, Warner (Primary Sponsors); Bell, Blackwood, Bonner, Fisher, Parmon, Sauls, Warren, and Womble.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATE EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS ON LONG-TERM SUSPENSION TO PROVIDE SCHOOL COUNSELORS IN EVERY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL AND TO MEET THE RECOMMENDED RATIO OF COUNSELORS TO STUDENTS IN EVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL IN NORTH CAROLINA, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** The first priority for the use of the expansion budget funds appropriated in this act to the Instructional Support Personnel shall be to enable every alternative school to have one school counselor and to enable every middle school as defined in G.S. 115C-75(a) to have a ratio of one school counselor per 250 students, as recommended by the American School Counselors Association.

**SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Aid to Local School Administrative Units the sum of twenty-three million nine hundred thousand seven hundred nine dollars (\$23,900,709) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to be used to provide the school counselors as provided in Section 1 of this act without reducing the number of instructional support personnel, such as other school counselors, school social workers, media specialists, and school nurses.

**SECTION 3.** The State Board of Education shall modify the accounting system for State Aid to Local School Administrative Units so that it can account for State funds expended for school counselors in each local school administrative unit.

**SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.