GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2005

SENATE BILL 1836

Senator Nesbitt. Sponsors: Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

May 24, 2006

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2	AN ACT TO H	PROVIDE CITIZENS THE TOOLS TO EDUCATE STUDENTS IN
3	GRADES K	-12 ON THE SKILLS THEY WILL NEED TO BE CITIZENS IN AN
4	INCREASIN	IGLY PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY.
5	The General Ass	sembly of North Carolina enacts:
6	PART I. TITL	E OF ACT AND PURPOSE
7	SECT	FION 1. This act shall be known as the "Preparing Our Students for
8	Democracy Act of 2006."	
9	SECT	TION 2. The General Assembly finds that:
10	(1)	All students must be educated and prepared to live and work in a
11		democracy and an economy with citizens from different religions,
12		races, countries of origin, and ethnicities.
13	(2)	The foundation of a democracy depends on an educated citizenry who
14		knows how these rights and responsibilities have been used and
15		misused by Americans in the past and at present.
16	(3)	Students in K-12 are more developmentally inclined to understand
17		history through the footprints and the people of their own community.
18		Students often lack an understanding of the relevancy of history.
19	(4)	History and social studies are the least tested and worst tested high
20		school subjects in schools across the United States and in North
21		Carolina.
22	(5)	There is a need for preservice teachers to gain additional classroom
23		experience in the methods of educating for democracy at the very
24		beginning of their teaching career.
25	(6)	Over the last 10 years, the Center for Diversity Education, located in
26		the University of North Carolina at Asheville, has developed and
27		implemented a model that uses community networks and regional
28		history to enhance the North Carolina Standard Course of Study with

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1	research-based exhibits and programs that can be replicated in
2	communities across North Carolina.
3	SECTION 3. The purpose of this act is to provide for the initial effort to
4	replicate the Center of Diversity Education in other regions of the State.
5	SECTION 4. The General Assembly finds that it is appropriate to provide
6	funding to the Center for Diversity Education to replicate the program in other regions
7	across North Carolina through constituent institutions of The University of North
8	Carolina and interested communities. Therefore, there is appropriated from the General
9	Fund to the Center for Diversity Education the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)
10	for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to develop a training institute at its office at the University
11	of North Carolina at Asheville to educate citizens and teachers across North Carolina on
12	how to replicate this program in their communities.
13	SECTION 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 2006.