

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2005

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 181 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Reciprocity for Teachers from other States.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Tillman

	FISCAL IMPACT				
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
REVENUES:					
EXPENDITURES:					
POSITIONS (cumulative):					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Local Education Agencies (LEAs); Department of Public Instruction (DPI).					
EFFECTIVE DATE: Bill is effective when it becomes law and applies to persons initially employed as teachers for 2005-06 or 2006-07 school year. Bill expires June 30, 2007.					

BILL SUMMARY:

The bill reenacts and revises GS 115C-296.3 (which expired on June 30, 2004) to require that except as provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, a teacher from another state be granted North Carolina certification if the teacher is: (1) fully certified and highly qualified as provided in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in another state, and (2) is employed as a teacher by a North Carolina local school administrative unit. Teachers with three or more years of experience shall be granted continuing certification for one year. Thereafter these teachers shall be granted continuing certification unless the employing unit recommends otherwise. Teachers with less than three years of experience shall be granted initial certification for one year or for the period necessary to acquire a combined total of three years of full-time teaching experience in North Carolina and/or the other state. Thereafter these teachers shall be granted continuing certification unless the employing unit recommends otherwise.

The bill also requires that the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee study the shortage of certified teachers in North Carolina and report to the 2007 General Assembly on the continuing need for GS 115C-296.3. *Source: Bill Digest S.B. 181 (02/23/2005)*

ASSUMPTIONS & METHODOLOGY: The bill simply increases the labor pool from which LEAs may hire. There is no increased cost associated with hiring these teachers. While the modified licensure policy may require DPI's Licensure Section to modify its protocol for processing applications from out-of-state teachers, any additional costs should be negligible.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: Since each state has its own requirements for teacher certification, it is possible that the bill will create situations in which out-of-state teachers certified by the bill will not have had to meet standards as stringent as those met by in-state teachers who have obtained certification. In particular, it is possible that an out-of-state teacher certified through the provisions of the Act might not have achieved a standardized test score (on the Praxis test, for example) that would have qualified them for certification had they been applying for their original certification in North Carolina. Similarly, it is possible that in-state candidates might achieve scores that are not sufficient to meet North Carolina's requirements for certification, but are higher than scores achieved by some out-of-state teachers who will be granted certification per the Act.

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