

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE BILL 1812\***

Short Title: Study Raising Compulsory Attendance Age. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Malone, Jenkins, Queen, Boseman, Tillman; Atwater, Forrester, Goss, Jones, and McKissick.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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May 21, 2008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
3 NORTH CAROLINA TO STUDY THE IMPACTS OF RAISING THE  
4 COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AGE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL ATTENDANCE  
5 FROM SIXTEEN TO SEVENTEEN OR EIGHTEEN, AS RECOMMENDED BY  
6 THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON DROPOUT PREVENTION AND  
7 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina,  
10 in coordination with the Department of Public Instruction, shall study the impacts of  
11 raising the compulsory public school attendance age from 16 to 17 or 18. In its study,  
12 the Board of Governors shall consider all of the following:

- 13 (1) What impacts, including fiscal impacts, has raising the compulsory  
14 school attendance age had in states which have raised the compulsory  
15 school attendance age in the last 15 years.
- 16 (2) What conclusions can be drawn as to the impact the compulsory  
17 school attendance age has made in the dropout and high school  
18 completion rates for states who require compulsory school attendance  
19 to ages 16, 17, and 18, respectively.
- 20 (3) What best practices for working with at-risk populations of students  
21 who remain in school have been employed in states that have raised  
22 the compulsory attendance age in the last 15 years.
- 23 (4) What would be the fiscal impact in raising the compulsory school  
24 attendance age from 16 to 17 and 16 to 18, respectively, for each local  
25 administrative school unit in North Carolina.

26 **SECTION 2.** No later than November 15, 2008, the Board of Governors of  
27 The University of North Carolina shall submit a report of its study to the Joint  
28 Legislative Commission on Dropout Prevention and High School Graduation and the

1 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, including its findings and  
2 recommendations.

3           **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.