

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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SENATE BILL 515

Short Title: Social-Emotional Curriculum in Public Schools. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Boseman.

Referred to: Education/Public Instruction.

March 6, 2007

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CURRICULUM IN THE
3 PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS AND TO APPROPRIATE
4 FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-81(e)(1) reads as rewritten:

7 "(1) A comprehensive school health education program shall be developed
8 and taught to pupils of the public schools of this State from
9 kindergarten through ninth grade. This program includes
10 age-appropriate instruction in the following subject areas, regardless of
11 whether this instruction is described as, or incorporated into a
12 description of, "family life education", "family health education",
13 "health education", "family living", "health", "healthful living
14 curriculum", or "self-esteem":

15 . . .

- 16 l. Abstinence until marriage education; ~~and~~
17 m. Bicycle ~~safety~~-safety; and
18 n. Personal safety, including staying safe when lost, getting
19 permission before going with someone, understanding and
20 dealing with safe and unsafe touching, and reporting and refusal
21 skills.

22 As used in this subsection, "HIV/AIDS" means Human Immunodeficiency
23 Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome."

24 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-81(h1) reads as rewritten:

25 "(h1) In addition to the instruction under subsection (h) of this section, local boards
26 of education are encouraged to include instruction on the following responsibilities:

- 27 (1) Respect for school personnel. – In the school environment, respect
28 includes holding teachers, school administrators, and all school
29 personnel in high esteem and demonstrating in words and deeds that

1 all school personnel deserve to be treated with courtesy and proper
2 deference.

3 (2) Responsibility for school safety. Helping to create a harmonious
4 school atmosphere that is free from threats, weapons, and violent or
5 disruptive behavior; cultivate an orderly learning environment in
6 which students and school personnel feel safe and secure; and
7 encourage the resolution of conflicts and disagreements through
8 peaceful means including peer mediation. Instruction in this
9 responsibility should include a consistent and age-appropriate
10 antiviolence message and a conflict resolution component for students
11 in kindergarten through twelfth grade. These messages should include
12 media-awareness education to help children recognize stereotypes and
13 messages portraying violence.

14 (3) Service to others. – Engaging in meaningful service to their schools
15 and their communities. Schools may teach service-learning by (i)
16 incorporating it into their standard curriculum, or (ii) involving a
17 classroom of students or some other group of students in one or more
18 hands-on community-service projects. All schools are encouraged to
19 provide opportunities for student involvement in community service or
20 service-learning projects.

21 (4) Good citizenship. – Obeying the laws of the nation and this State;
22 abiding by school rules; and understanding the rights and
23 responsibilities of a member of a republic.

24 (5) Social and emotional learning. – Learning social and emotional skills,
25 violence prevention skills, social competence, empathy training,
26 behavior skills, and anger management training."

27 **SECTION 3.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
28 Department of Public Instruction the sum of one million seven hundred nineteen
29 thousand eight hundred ninety dollars (\$1,719,890) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and
30 the sum of one million seven hundred nineteen thousand eight hundred ninety dollars
31 (\$1,719,890) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to implement this act with prekindergarten
32 and kindergarten children.

33 **SECTION 3.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
34 Department of Public Instruction the sum of three million eight hundred twenty-two
35 thousand seven hundred thirty-four dollars (\$3,822,734) for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to
36 implement this act with children in grades one through three.

37 **SECTION 3.(c)** It is the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate funds
38 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to expand the program to grades four through six.

39 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.