

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 758
Senate Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 6/7/11
Third Edition Engrossed 6/13/11

Short Title: Establish Arts Education Commission.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 7, 2011

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARTS EDUCATION COMMISSION.

3 Whereas, arts education teaches 21st Century skills necessary for a prepared and
4 competitive workforce; and

5 Whereas, the General Assembly has established the Joint Select Study Commission
6 on Arts Education for Grades K-12 in the Public Schools of North Carolina, which
7 recommended legislation for a high school graduation requirement in the arts; and

8 Whereas, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 66, "An Act to Create a
9 Comprehensive Arts Education Plan"; and

10 Whereas, the Comprehensive Arts Education Task Force recommendations include
11 a high school graduation requirement in the arts, implementation of the arts components of the
12 Basic Education Plan, and expansion of the A+ Schools program in North Carolina; and

13 Whereas, these previous committee reports submitted over time increasingly
14 indicate a developing consensus as to the need for statewide policies in arts education; and

15 Whereas, despite the developing consensus reflected in the previous committees, no
16 change to the State's education policies related to arts education has yet occurred; Now,
17 therefore,

18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

19 **SECTION 1.** Establishment. – The Arts Education Commission is established in
20 the General Assembly.

21 **SECTION 2.** Membership. – The Commission shall be composed of nine
22 members, as follows:

- 23 (1) Three members appointed by the Governor.
24 (2) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to
25 include one Representative and two citizens at large.
26 (3) Three members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to
27 include one Senator and two citizens at large.

28 The Commission shall have two cochairs, one designated by the President Pro Tempore of the
29 Senate and one designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from among their
30 appointees. The Commission shall meet upon the call of the cochairs. Vacancies shall be filled
31 by the appointing authority. Public members shall be residents of the State. A quorum of the
32 Commission shall be a majority of the nine members.

33 **SECTION 3.** Duties. – The Commission shall do the following:

- 34 (1) Review, prioritize, and recommend implementation strategies for the
35 recommendations of the Comprehensive Arts Education Plan for K-12.



- 1 (2) Recommend the content and process to establish an arts education "report
2 card" which shall be presented yearly by the Department of Public
3 Instruction to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.
- 4 (3) Recommend ways to assess and promote opportunities for students to learn
5 the skills of creativity and innovation in public schools.
- 6 (4) Work with the Department of Public Instruction in the creation of arts
7 education assessment models based on the existing NAEP Arts Assessments
8 and Field Tests that are complete in both music and visual art and currently
9 under development in theatre arts and dance to measure student achievement
10 in arts education. With the approval of the State Board of Education, this
11 analysis and assessment of student performance will be included in the
12 North Carolina Educator Evaluation System for Arts Education Teachers, as
13 well as serve as a model for evaluating the effective practice of arts
14 integration by classroom teachers in other content areas.
- 15 (5) Recommend the establishment of arts education accountability incentives for
16 schools under the accountability component of the Accountability and
17 Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) for the following:
- 18 a. Providing arts education taught by certified arts educators and
19 implementing arts integration strategies taught by classroom teachers
20 from other content areas.
- 21 b. Completing concentrations, with appropriate scope and sequence of
22 curriculum, in an arts education discipline.
- 23 (6) Study and recommend a permanent financing strategy to provide for
24 comprehensive arts education in grades K-12.

25 **SECTION 4.** Compensation; Administration. – Members of the Commission shall
26 receive subsistence and travel allowances at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, or 138-6,
27 as appropriate. With the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the Legislative
28 Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist in the work of the
29 Commission. With the prior approval of the Legislative Services Commission, the
30 Commission may hold its meetings in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office
31 Building. The Commission may also meet at various locations around the State in order to
32 promote greater public participation in its deliberations. The Commission, while in the
33 discharge of its official duties, may exercise all the powers provided under the provisions of
34 G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4, including the power to request that all
35 officers, agents, agencies, and departments of the State provide any information, data, or
36 documents within their possession, ascertainable from their records, or otherwise available to
37 them. The Commission may meet during a regular or extra session of the General Assembly.

38 **SECTION 5.** Report. – The Commission shall report its findings and
39 recommendations to the 2012 Regular Session of the 2011 General Assembly no later than May
40 1, 2012. The Commission shall terminate upon the filing of its final report.

41 **SECTION 6.** This act is effective when it becomes law.