

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL 654

Short Title: Charter Schools Provide Transp. & Food. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Garrett and Robinson (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

April 4, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHARTER SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION AND
3 FOOD SERVICES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-218.1(b) reads as rewritten:

6 "(b) The application shall contain at least the following information:

7 ...

8 (16) The school's plans for providing transportation. The school shall develop a
9 plan for transportation for any student enrolled in the charter school who
10 resides in the local school administrative unit in which the school will be
11 located.

12 (17) The school's plans for providing food services. The school shall develop a plan
13 to provide food services for any student enrolled in the charter school."

14 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-218.40 reads as rewritten:

15 "**§ 115C-218.40. Charter school transportation.**

16 The charter school may provide transportation for students enrolled at the school. The charter
17 school shall ~~develop a transportation plan so that transportation is not a barrier to provide~~
18 transportation for any student enrolled in the charter school who resides in the local school
19 administrative unit in which the school is located. ~~The charter school is not required to provide~~
20 ~~transportation to any student who lives within one and one-half miles of the school.~~ At the request
21 of the charter school and if the local board of the local school administrative unit in which the
22 charter school is located operates a school bus system, then that local board may contract with
23 the charter school to provide transportation in accordance with the charter school's transportation
24 plan to students who reside in the local school administrative unit and who reside at least one and
25 one-half miles of the charter school. A local board may charge the charter school a reasonable
26 charge that is sufficient to cover the cost of providing this transportation. Furthermore, a local
27 board may refuse to provide transportation under this section if it demonstrates there is no
28 available space on buses it intends to operate during the term of the contract or it would not be
29 practically feasible to provide this transportation."

30 **SECTION 3.** Article 14A of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
31 adding a new section to read:

32 "**§ 115C-218.42. Food services.**

33 The charter school shall provide food services for any student enrolled in the charter school.
34 In the operation of their food service programs, charter schools shall participate in the National
35 School Lunch Program as provided in G.S. 115C-264."



1 **SECTION 4.** Section 1 of this act applies to applications for a new or renewed
2 charter submitted on or after July 1, 2019. Sections 2 and 3 of this act become effective July 1,
3 2020. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.