

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

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**SENATE BILL 866**

Short Title: Fund School Psychologists and Social Workers. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Chaudhuri and Mohammed (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget

May 27, 2022

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND SOCIAL  
3 WORKERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL UNITS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-316.5 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 115C-316.5. School psychologists allotment.**

7 (a) To the extent funds are made available, the State Board of Education shall establish a  
8 funding allotment for school psychologist positions. The State Board is authorized to adopt rules  
9 for the allocation of school psychologist positions pursuant to this allotment. Rules adopted by  
10 the State Board pursuant to this section shall include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

11 (1) School psychologist positions are allocated on the basis of average daily  
12 ~~membership-membership~~ at a rate of one school psychologist per 700  
13 students.

14 (2) Each local school administrative unit receives sufficient funding for at least  
15 one school psychologist position in accordance with G.S. 115C-47(67).

16 (b) Beginning with the 2023-2024 fiscal year, there is appropriated from the General  
17 Fund to the Department of Public Instruction, to be allocated to the school psychologists  
18 allotment, the amounts necessary to employ the following percentages of the ratio of school  
19 psychologists to students provided in subsection (a) of this section in each of the following fiscal  
20 years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
2023-2024	30%
2024-2025	40%
2025-2026	55%
2026-2027	70%
2027-2028	85%
2028-2029	100%

28 (c) When developing the base budget, as defined by G.S. 143C-1-1, for each fiscal year  
29 specified in subsection (b) of this section, the Director of the Budget shall include the  
30 appropriated amount for that fiscal year.

31 (d) Funds provided pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall supplement and not  
32 supplant any other funds provided for school psychologists."

33 **SECTION 1.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
34 Public Instruction the sum of eighteen million eight hundred thirty-five thousand two hundred  
35 seventy dollars (\$18,835,270) in recurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year to be allocated to



1 the school psychologist allotment pursuant to G.S. 115C-316.5, as amended by this act, to fund  
 2 school psychologists in public school units.

3 **SECTION 2.(a)** Article 21 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
 4 adding a new section to read:

5 "**§ 115C-316.7. School social worker allotment.**

6 (a) The State Board of Education shall establish a funding allotment for school social  
 7 worker roles. The State Board is authorized to adopt rules for the allocation of school social  
 8 worker positions pursuant to this allotment. School social worker positions shall be allocated on  
 9 the basis of average daily membership at a rate of one school social worker per 400 students.

10 (b) Beginning with the 2023-2024 fiscal year, there is appropriated from the General  
 11 Fund to the Department of Public Instruction, to be added to the instructional support allotment,  
 12 the amounts necessary to employ the following percentages of the school social worker role  
 13 position level provided in subsection (a) of this section for each fiscal year as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>30%</u>
<u>2024-2025</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>55%</u>
<u>2026-2027</u>	<u>70%</u>
<u>2027-2028</u>	<u>85%</u>
<u>2028-2029</u>	<u>100%</u>

14 (c) When developing the base budget, as defined by G.S. 143C-1-1, for each fiscal year  
 15 specified in subsection (b) of this section, the Director of the Budget shall include the  
 16 appropriated amount for that fiscal year.

17 (d) Funds provided pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall supplement and not  
 18 supplant any other funds provided for school social workers."

19 **SECTION 2.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
 20 Public Instruction the sum of twenty-four million two hundred sixteen thousand eight hundred  
 21 ninety dollars (\$24,216,890) in recurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year pursuant to  
 22 G.S. 115C-316.7, as enacted by this act, to fund social worker roles in public school units.

23 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2022.  
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