

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
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HOUSE BILL 767
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/2/13
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Short Title: Brass to Class Act.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 11, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT ENACTING THE BRASS TO CLASS ACT, WHICH DIRECTS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH RULES FOR AWARDING CREDIT FOR PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE GIVEN TO CERTAIN VETERANS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLACING THEM ON STATE SALARY SCHEDULES.

Whereas, formal education and training for both officers and enlisted ranks includes a tremendous breadth and depth of credentialed, technical, and vocational training which is applied operationally for years with additional follow-up support and continuing education; and

Whereas, in addition to technical and vocational training, many military members who spend more than one tour and certainly multiple tours in uniform take one or several professional military education courses of study; and

Whereas, select members of the military complete unique, rigorous programs that are the envy of some of the best graduate and post-graduate institutions in the United States, and these professional military education programs are college programs and certainly worthy of credit; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The State Board of Education shall establish rules for awarding credit for salary purposes to principals, assistant principals, and teachers who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and who have retired or who have received an Honorable Discharge. The rules shall include the following provisions:

- (1) One full year of experience credit shall be awarded for each year of full-time relevant nonteaching work experience completed (i) while on active military duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and (ii) after earning a bachelor's degree.
- (2) One full year of experience credit shall be awarded for each two years of full-time relevant nonteaching work experience completed (i) while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States and (ii) before earning a bachelor's degree.
- (3) One full year of experience credit shall be awarded for every two years of full-time instructional or leadership training while on active military duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, regardless of academic degree held while participating in the training.

SECTION 2. The State Board of Education shall establish specific criteria within the rules for determining the relevance of nonteaching work experience earned while on active



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1 military duty that shall be credited toward an individual's total licensure experience rating for
2 salary purposes. The criteria shall include the following components:

- 3 (1) A clearly defined process to explore, identify, recognize, and quantify the
4 breadth and depth of career experiences, formal professional military
5 education, and pertinent credentials of military veterans.
- 6 (2) A transparent and timely decision-making process for awarding complete
7 credit for pertinent experience and education.
- 8 (3) A process for reviewing and accepting military transcripts and
9 corresponding American Council on Education (ACE) recommendations for
10 awarding academic and experiential credit.

11 **SECTION 3.** The State Board of Education shall study (i) the costs and benefits of
12 providing student teaching stipends with an associated minimum professional teaching
13 requirement to individuals who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and who have
14 retired or who have received an Honorable Discharge and who are pursuing a teacher or school
15 administrator license and (ii) potential reductions in teacher and school administrator licensure
16 requirements for those individuals who are certified instructors.

17 **SECTION 4.** The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative
18 Education Oversight Committee by December 9, 2013, on (i) the rules drafted to implement
19 this act and (ii) the results of the study as provided in Section 3 of this act.

20 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to military
21 veterans employed by local school administrative units in the 2014-2015 school year and
22 beyond.