

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1993**

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**SENATE BILL 383**

Short Title: GPAC/Raise BEP Instructional Stds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Martin of Guilford.

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Referred to: Government Performance Audit.

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February 24, 1993

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A RECOMMENDATION OF THE GOVERNMENT  
PERFORMANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM  
INSTRUCTIONAL STANDARDS SET OUT IN THE BASIC EDUCATION  
PROGRAM.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-12(9) reads as rewritten:

"(9) Miscellaneous Powers and Duties. – All the powers and duties exercised by the State Board of Education shall be in conformity with the Constitution and subject to such laws as may be enacted from time to time by the General Assembly. Among such duties are:

- a. To certify and regulate the grade and salary of teachers and other school employees.
- b. To adopt and supply textbooks.
- c. To adopt rules requiring all local boards of education to implement the Basic Education Program on an incremental basis within funds appropriated for that purpose by the General Assembly and by units of local government. Beginning with the 1991-92 school year, the rules shall require each local school administrative unit to implement fully the standard course of study in every school in the State in accordance with the Basic Education Program so that every student in the State shall have equal access to the curriculum as provided in the Basic Education Program and the standard course of study.

1           The Board shall establish benchmarks by which to measure  
2 the progress that each local board of education has made in  
3 implementing the Basic Education Program. The Board shall  
4 report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee  
5 and to the General Assembly by December 31, 1991, and by  
6 February 1 of each subsequent year on each local board's  
7 progress in implementing the Basic Education Program,  
8 including the use of State and local funds for the Basic  
9 Education Program.

10           The Board shall develop a State accreditation program that  
11 meets or exceeds the standards and requirements of the Basic  
12 Education Program. The Board shall require each local school  
13 administrative unit to comply with the State accreditation  
14 program to the extent that funds have been made available to  
15 the local school administrative unit for implementation of the  
16 Basic Education Program.

17           The Board shall use the State accreditation program to  
18 monitor the implementation of the Basic Education Program.

- 19           c1. To issue an annual 'report card' for the State and for each local  
20 school administrative unit, assessing each unit's efforts to  
21 improve student performance and taking into account progress  
22 over the previous years' level of performance and the State's  
23 performance in comparison with other states. This assessment  
24 shall take into account demographic, economic, and other  
25 factors that have been shown to affect student performance.
- 26           c2. To develop management accountability indicators to measure  
27 the efficiency and appropriate use of staff in each school and at  
28 the administrative office. Staff development for school  
29 administrators shall be a high priority of the Department of  
30 Public Instruction.
- 31           c3. To develop a system of school building improvement reports  
32 for each school building. The purpose of school building  
33 improvement reports is to measure improvement in student  
34 performance at each school building from year to year, not to  
35 compare school buildings. The Board may consider for  
36 inclusion in the building reports the following criteria: test  
37 scores, the success of graduating students in postsecondary  
38 institutions, attendance, graduation and dropout rates, the  
39 numbers of children enrolled in free lunch or Chapter 1  
40 programs, the education level of the parents of children enrolled  
41 in the school, the teaching experience of the school staff, and  
42 whether the building has been successful in meeting the goals  
43 of the building and systemwide plans developed in accordance  
44 with G.S. 115C-238.1 through G.S. 115C-238.6. Local school

1 administrative units shall produce school building improvement  
2 reports by March 15, 1995, and annually thereafter. Each report  
3 shall be based on building-level data for the prior school year.

4 c4. To establish a regular process, including an advisory panel of  
5 accountability experts and public school personnel, to review  
6 and revise the minimum standards that appear in the annual  
7 report card, the end-of-course and end-of-grade tests, and the  
8 Basic Education Program Standard Course of Study. As part of  
9 the process, special attention shall be given to the effectiveness  
10 of the Basic Education Standard Program Course of Study and  
11 local instructional practices, as reflected in assessment results.  
12 Also, the use and function of the 'Index of Advantagement' on  
13 the annual report cards shall be studied and refined, in  
14 collaboration with appropriate State university experts.

15 d. To formulate rules and regulations for the enforcement of the  
16 compulsory attendance law.

17 e. To manage and operate a system of insurance for public school  
18 property, as provided in Article 38 of this Chapter.

19 In making substantial policy changes in administration,  
20 curriculum, or programs the Board should conduct hearings  
21 throughout the regions of the State, whenever feasible, in order  
22 that the public may be heard regarding these matters."

23 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.