

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

EXTRA SESSION 1994

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HOUSE BILL 58
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/1/94

Short Title: Apprenticeship Program Grants.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 9, 1994

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE GRANTS FOR LOCALLY DESIGNED PROGRAMS TO
2 REDUCE CRIME BY PROVIDING A SCHOOL/WORK APPRENTICESHIP
3 PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN HIGH SCHOOLS THAT SERVE LOW-
4 INCOME, HIGH-CRIME AREAS.
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Aid to Local
8 School Administrative Units, the sum of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) for
9 the 1994-95 fiscal year to provide grants for local school administrative units for locally
10 designed innovative local programs to reduce crime by providing a school/work
11 apprenticeship program for students in high schools that serve low-income, high-crime
12 areas. These funds shall be used for 20 five-year grants of from twenty thousand dollars
13 (\$20,000) to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year to local school administrative
14 units. No more than fifteen percent (15%) of the funds each year shall be spent for
15 administration of the program at the local level.

16 A school/work apprenticeship program is a program that integrates academic
17 instruction, structured vocational training and paid work-site experience and results in a
18 high school diploma and an approved certificate of competency. It includes a career
19 preparation program for middle school students. Participating students and businesses
20 shall be required to register with the Department of Public Instruction and the
21 Department of Labor.

22 A single local school administrative unit may apply for or two or more
23 adjacent local school administrative units may apply jointly for a grant for one or more

1 of their schools that serve high school and middle school students. Applicants for
2 grants shall submit to the State Board of Education an application that includes the
3 following information:

- 4 (1) Data on the socioeconomic status, unemployment rates, and crime
5 rates in the neighborhoods in which the students who attend the target
6 schools live, and the dropout and attendance rates for the target high
7 schools.
- 8 (2) A detailed plan for a school/work apprenticeship program that will
9 provide high school students with apprenticeships in local businesses
10 and industry and with academic training that is directly applicable to
11 the job training that the student is receiving at work.
- 12 (3) A detailed plan to remediate student apprentices admitted to the
13 program but whose scores are less than proficient on an assessment of
14 academic standards for the program to be designed by the Department
15 of Public Instruction.
- 16 (4) A detailed plan that will provide middle school students with career
17 counseling and curriculum planning assistance that will prepare them
18 for participation in the apprenticeship program and employment.
- 19 (5) A statement of how the grant funds will be used to enhance and
20 encourage existing programs to serve these students.
- 21 (6) A statement of how the grant funds will be used in conjunction with
22 existing State, federal, and local resources, and of any additional local
23 funds or services that will be committed to the program.

24 In reviewing grant applications, the State Board of Education shall consider
25 the severity of the local problems with regard to crime and the likelihood that the locally
26 designed plan will provide a meaningful school/work apprenticeship program for
27 students at the targeted schools. The State Board of Education shall attempt to award
28 grants to local school administrative units that are located geographically throughout the
29 State, that use existing resources for vocational programs to serve these students, and
30 that are making strong local commitments to vocational programs to serve these
31 students. The State Board shall select grant recipients prior to January 1, 1995.

32 The Department of Public Instruction shall develop a proficiency assessment
33 for participating students based on high school communications and mathematics skills.
34 The Department shall use funds within its budget to develop the assessment.

35 The State Board of Education shall contract with a private consultant to
36 evaluate the program in July of 1997 and in July of 1998. The evaluation shall include
37 an analysis of the employability of the students who participate in the program, career
38 success of participants, assessment results, and graduation rates for participating
39 schools. Upon receiving the results of the evaluation, and no later than January 1, 1998,
40 and January 1, 1999, the State Board of Education shall report on the results of the
41 evaluation to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.

42 The State Board of Education shall report on how the funds are being used to
43 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee prior to December 31 of each year

- 1 of the program. The State Board may report at any time to the Joint Legislative
- 2 Education Oversight Committee on any recommended changes to the grant program.
- 3 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1994.