

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE BILL 1079

Short Title: Study Raising the Compulsory Attendance Age. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Parmon, Glazier, Womble, McLawhorn (Primary Sponsors); B. Allen, Carney, Farmer-Butterfield, Fisher, Pierce, Ross, Wainwright, and Weiss.

Referred to: Education, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

March 31, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT
2 COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE NEED TO RAISE THE COMPULSORY
3 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AGE.
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall
7 perform a comprehensive study of the need to raise the compulsory school attendance
8 age. In the course of the study, the Committee shall consider:

- 9 (1) The impact of dropping out on the student;
- 10 (2) The capacity of a 16-year-old to understand the social and economic
11 consequences of dropping out of school;
- 12 (3) The emergence of major high school reform efforts, including Learn
13 and Earn Programs, the New Schools Initiative, and 21st Century
14 Schools, and the impact they may have on teenagers who remain in
15 school longer;
- 16 (4) The importance to the entire State of every student leaving high school
17 prepared to enter the workforce or succeed in higher education;
- 18 (5) Research on factors related to students' success in school;
- 19 (6) Strategies, programs, and support services that should be provided if
20 the compulsory school attendance age is raised to enable students to
21 graduate from high school and time lines for implementing those
22 strategies, programs, and support services;
- 23 (7) Related laws and policies that must be addressed to ensure the
24 availability of support services for students;
- 25 (8) The fiscal impact of raising the compulsory attendance age;
- 26 (9) The law in other states and the experience of other states that have
27 raised the compulsory school attendance age; and

1 (10) Input from school personnel and from dropouts and students at risk of
2 dropping out on the issue.

3 The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall report the results
4 of its study and its recommendations to the 2006 Regular Session of the 2005 General
5 Assembly.

6 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.