

1 addition to the funds already spent for quality-of-life and morale at military bases and
2 not to supplant those funds. In the event the United States reduces its federal aid to
3 impacted areas beyond the current amount, then all funds collected under this section
4 and used for quality-of-life and base morale programs will revert to the school boards of
5 Craven, Cumberland, Onslow, and Wayne counties in proportion to the amount of tax
6 collected in those counties.

7 One half of the waived taxes, six and three quarters cents (6.75¢) collected per
8 gallon, shall be deposited in the Conservation Grant Fund established pursuant to
9 G.S. 113A-232. The funds deposited in the Conservative Grant Fund pursuant to this
10 section shall be used solely for compatible land use and conservation easement type
11 acquisitions of land adjacent to military bases and flyways."

12 **SECTION 2.2.** G.S. 105-449.62 reads as rewritten:

13 **"§ 105-449.62. Nature of tax.**

14 This Article imposes a tax on motor fuel to provide revenue for the State's
15 transportation ~~needs and~~ needs, for the other purposes listed in Part 7 of this
16 ~~Article.~~ Article, and for the purposes provided in G.S. 136-41.9. The tax is collected
17 from the supplier or importer of the fuel because this method is the most efficient way
18 to collect the tax. The tax is designed, however, to be paid ultimately by the person who
19 consumes the fuel. The tax becomes a part of the cost of the fuel and is consequently
20 paid by those who subsequently purchase and consume the fuel."

21 **SECTION 2.3.** This Part becomes effective July 1, 2006.

22
23 **PART III. ENCOURAGE CERTAIN OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING BOARDS TO**
24 **DEVELOP POLICIES FOR EXPEDITING THE LICENSING PROCESS FOR**
25 **MILITARY SPOUSES.**

26 **SECTION 3.1.** Findings. – The General Assembly finds that:

- 27 (1) According to the Department of Defense, the unemployment rate of
28 military spouses is three times greater than the average American
29 spouse in the same age group; and
30 (2) The mobile military lifestyle causes some military spouses to endure
31 long periods of unemployment, and thus, loss of income; and
32 (3) Professional licensing requirements often differ among states, which in
33 turn may limit career advancement or deter reentry into the workforce
34 for military families moving to new locations.

35 **SECTION 3.2.(a)** In an effort to support military personnel and their
36 families, each occupational licensing board in this State is encouraged to develop
37 policies that would make the licensing process for military spouses more efficient and
38 expedient. In expediting the licensing process, an occupational licensing board shall
39 review its current licensing process especially as it relates to military personnel. After
40 reviewing the licensing process, the licensing board may develop and implement
41 policies regarding licensure that provide for assistance to military spouses and
42 dependents to ensure a smooth process when military families move into this State or
43 are transferred out of this State. Implementation of these policies shall not apply to
44 occupational licensing boards regulating health care professionals.

1 taken as a result of the study to modify its policies and practices to the Joint Legislative
2 Education Oversight Committee prior to December 15, 2005.

3
4 PART VIII. APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO MAKE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY
5 AWARE OF THE TROOPS TO TEACHERS PROGRAM.

6 SECTION 8.1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
7 Department of Public Instruction the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for
8 the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the
9 2006-2007 fiscal year to make members of the military and military retirees aware of
10 the Troops to Teachers Program.

11 SECTION 8.2. This Part becomes effective July 1, 2005.

12
13 PART IX. A STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMISSION
14 INTO THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS IF THE STUDENT'S
15 PARENT IS AN ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES
16 STATIONED IN THIS STATE AT THE TIME THE STUDENT'S APPLICATION IS
17 SUBMITTED.

18 SECTION 9.1. G.S. 116-235(b)(1) reads as rewritten:

19 "(1) Admission of Students. – The School shall admit students in
20 accordance with criteria, standards, and procedures established by the
21 Board of Trustees. To be eligible to be considered for admission, an
22 applicant must be either a legal resident of the State, as defined by
23 G.S. 116-143.1(a)(1); G.S. 116-143.1(a)(1) or a student whose parent
24 is an active duty member of the armed services as defined by
25 G.S. 116-143.3(2) who is abiding in this State incident to active
26 military duty at the time the application is submitted, provided the
27 student shares the abode of that parent; eligibility to remain enrolled in
28 the School shall terminate at the end of any school year during which a
29 student becomes a nonresident of the State. The Board of Trustees
30 shall ensure, insofar as possible without jeopardizing admission
31 standards, that an equal number of qualified rising high school juniors
32 is admitted to the program and to the residential summer institutes in
33 science and mathematics from each of North Carolina's congressional
34 districts. In no event shall the differences in the number of rising high
35 school juniors offered admission to the program from each of North
36 Carolina's congressional districts be more than two and one-half
37 percentage points from the average number per district who are offered
38 admission."

39 SECTION 9.2. This Part is effective when it becomes law and applies to the
40 2005-2006 academic year and each subsequent academic year.

41
42 PART X. INCREASE THE CAPS ON FUNDING FOR CHILDREN WITH
43 DISABILITIES AND FOR ACADEMICALLY GIFTED CHILDREN.

1 **SECTION 10.1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
2 Department of Public Instruction the sum of twenty-one million two hundred two
3 thousand seven hundred seventy-seven dollars (\$21,202,777) for the 2005-2006 fiscal
4 year and the sum of twenty-one million five hundred forty-two thousand twenty-one
5 dollars (\$21,542,021) for the 2006-2007 school year for children with disabilities. The
6 State Board of Education shall allocate these funds to local school administrative units
7 on a per child basis. Each local school administrative unit shall receive funds for the
8 lesser of (i) all children who are identified as children with disabilities, or (ii) thirteen
9 and five-tenths percent (13.5%) of the allocated average daily membership for the
10 school year in the local school administrative unit.

11 The dollar amounts allocated under this section for children with disabilities
12 shall also adjust in accordance with legislative salary increments, retirement rate
13 adjustments, and health benefit adjustments for personnel who serve children with
14 disabilities.

15 **SECTION 10.2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
16 Department of Public Instruction the sum of twelve million eight hundred seventy-nine
17 thousand three hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$12,879,329) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year
18 and the sum of thirteen million one hundred twenty-four thousand thirty-six dollars
19 (\$13,124,036) for the 2006-2007 school year for academically or intellectually gifted
20 children. The State Board of Education shall allocate these funds to local school
21 administrative units on a per child basis. Each local school administrative unit shall
22 receive funds for a maximum of five percent (5%) of the allocated average daily
23 membership for the school year, regardless of the number of children identified as
24 academically or intellectually gifted in the unit.

25 The dollar amounts allocated under this section for academically or
26 intellectually gifted children shall also adjust in accordance with legislative salary
27 increments, retirement rate adjustments, and health benefit adjustments for personnel
28 who serve academically or intellectually gifted children.

29 **SECTION 10.3.** This Part becomes effective July 1, 2005.

30
31 PART XI. DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO
32 MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP IN THE MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION
33 COALITION.

34 **SECTION 11.1.** The Department of Public Instruction shall maintain
35 membership in the Military Child Education Coalition. The Military Child Education
36 Coalitions is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, worldwide organization that identifies the challenges
37 that face the highly mobile military child, increases awareness of these challenges in
38 military and educational communities and initiates and implements programs to meet
39 the challenges. The Coalition's goal is to level the educational playing field for military
40 children wherever they are located around the world and to serve as a model for all
41 highly mobile children.

42
43 PART XII. EFFECTIVE DATE.

1 **SECTION 12.** Except as provided otherwise, this act is effective when it
2 becomes law.