

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE BILL 1477

Short Title: Sci/Math Teacher Prep. Programs. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Swindell, Lucas, Atwater, Cowell, Malone, Nesbitt, Garwood, Hartsell, Stevens, Apodaca; Bingham, Boseman, Dalton, Dannelly, Dorsett, Hagan, Jenkins, Miller, Rand, Snow, and Tillman.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

May 17, 2006

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A RECOMMENDATION OF THE JOINT
2 LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO ENCOURAGE
3 THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH
4 CAROLINA TO REDESIGN THEIR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE
5 TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS, AND TO MAKE AN
6 APPROPRIATION.
7

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** The purpose of this act is to encourage the constituent
10 institutions of The University of North Carolina to redesign their teacher preparation
11 programs so that they better prepare the individuals who must acquire in-depth content
12 knowledge and well-honed skills to teach mathematics or science, or both, in the public
13 schools, whether in elementary, middle, or high school. In light of the rapidly changing
14 global economy, these redesigned programs must prepare teachers who can challenge
15 North Carolina's students with rigorous content standards so that when these students
16 ultimately enter the workforce, they will have the skills and knowledge required in the
17 future.

18 **SECTION 2.(a)** The Board of Governors of The University of North
19 Carolina shall develop and implement a competitive proposal process and criteria for
20 assessing proposals to establish rigorous, innovative, interdisciplinary, and collaborative
21 teacher preparation programs for individuals who will teach mathematics or science, or
22 both, whether in elementary, middle, or high school. To facilitate the development of
23 the programs, program criteria, and the proposal process, the Board of Governors shall
24 convene a task force of mathematicians, scientists, and individuals with teacher
25 preparation expertise to assist it in designing the proposal process and criteria for
26 assessing the proposals. The Task Force shall consult with the State Board of
27 Education, persons familiar with mathematics and science education in other countries,

1 members of business and industry, and any other persons the Task Force considers
2 appropriate.

3 **SECTION 2.(b)** The Task Force shall identify which departments, schools,
4 or other programs within constituent institutions may submit a proposal under this act.
5 The Task Force also shall determine whether proposals to develop a multicampus,
6 regional, distance, or joint program will be eligible for consideration. The Task Force
7 shall develop criteria for assessing the proposals submitted under this act. Submitted
8 proposals shall include the extent to which the proposed programs:

- 9 (1) Reflect a vision for preparing teachers who have a strong foundation of
10 the content knowledge and skills needed to teach mathematics or
11 science, or both, whether in elementary, middle, or high school.
- 12 (2) Are interdisciplinary in design and involve more than schools of
13 education.
- 14 (3) Reflect collaboration with local school administrative units,
15 professional associations, mathematics and science organizations, and
16 business and industry.
- 17 (4) Meet content standards proposed by mathematicians or scientists, or
18 both.
- 19 (5) Demonstrate a significant commitment and sharing of campus
20 resources.
- 21 (6) Employ entrance standards and criteria that will attract outstanding
22 applicants who reflect the racial and economic composition of the
23 State.
- 24 (7) Can serve as models for other mathematics and science teacher
25 preparation programs in the State.
- 26 (8) Include other elements that the Board of Governors and Task Force
27 consider appropriate and necessary.

28 **SECTION 2.(c)** The Board of Governors shall develop a budget for the
29 programs established under this section that reflects the resources necessary to establish
30 and operate redesigned mathematics and science teacher preparation programs.

31 **SECTION 3.** The Board of Governors shall report to the Joint Legislative
32 Education Oversight Committee on the budget developed under Section 2(c) of this act
33 and on the design for the programs and the proposal process created under Section 2(b)
34 of this act by December 1, 2006.

35 **SECTION 4.** Requests for proposals shall be disseminated to the constituent
36 institutions no later than January 15, 2007. Proposals shall be submitted to the Board of
37 Governors no later than June 1, 2007. The Board of Governors shall then reconvene the
38 Task Force to screen the submitted proposals. After its screening, the Task Force shall
39 make its recommendations to the Board of Governors by September 1, 2007. The Board
40 of Governors shall choose the institutions that shall have the redesigned mathematics
41 and science teacher preparation programs no later than November 1, 2007.

42 **SECTION 5.** Institutions chosen to have programs under Section 4 of this
43 act shall plan for the implementation of the programs. Programs shall begin operating
44 no later than September 1, 2008.

1 **SECTION 6.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
2 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of fifty thousand dollars
3 (\$50,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to implement Section 2 of this act.

4 **SECTION 7.** Section 5 of this act shall not become effective unless
5 sufficient funds are appropriated for this purpose. Nothing in this act shall require the
6 General Assembly to appropriate any funds to implement it.

7 **SECTION 8.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2006.