GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2011

SESSION LAW 2011-308 SENATE BILL 685

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF PROPRIETARY SCHOOLS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 8 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended by adding three new sections to read:

"§ 115D-89.1. State Board of Proprietary Schools.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools is established in the North Carolina (a) Community Colleges System Office.

- The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall consist of seven members as follows: (b)
 - The President of the North Carolina Community College System or the (1)President's designee.
 - Two members appointed by the Governor.
 - $\frac{(2)}{(3)}$ Two members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be the owner or director of a proprietary school licensed in the State with less than 100 total annual enrollment of students and one the owner or director of a proprietary school or group of proprietary schools licensed in the State with more than 750 total annual enrollment of students.
 - (4) Two members appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be the owner or director of a proprietary school licensed in the State with between 100 and 750 total annual enrollment of students and one the owner or director of a proprietary school licensed in the State.

The appointing authorities shall appoint members who have a demonstrated history of experience in proprietary or public postsecondary education, an understanding of standards of quality in postsecondary education, and leadership beyond a particular institution.

No member of the General Assembly, spouse of a member of the General (c) Assembly, or officer or employee of the State shall be eligible to serve on the State Board of Proprietary Schools as appointed members.

One initial member appointed by each appointing authority shall be appointed for a (d)term ending December 30, 2014; the other member shall be appointed for a term ending December 30, 2017. Subsequent appointments shall be for six-year terms beginning on January 1. No person shall be appointed or elected to more than two consecutive six-year terms.

Vacancies in appointments made by the Governor shall be filled by the Governor. Vacancies in the appointments made by the General Assembly shall be filled in accordance with G.S. 120-122.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools may declare vacant the office of a member (e) who does not attend three consecutive scheduled meetings without justifiable excuse. The Chair of the State Board of Proprietary Schools shall notify the appropriate appointing authority of any such vacancy.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall elect from its membership a chair and (f) such other officers as it may deem necessary. Officers shall serve for a term of two years.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall meet at stated times established by the (g) State Board of Proprietary Schools but not less frequently than four times a year. Special meetings of the State Board of Proprietary Schools may be set at any regular meeting or may be called by the chair. A majority of the qualified members of the State Board of Proprietary Schools shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.



"§ 115D-89.2. Office of Proprietary Schools; staff.

The Office of Proprietary Schools shall be the principal administrative unit under the direction of the State Board of Proprietary Schools. Unless specified in G.S. 115D-89.3, the State Board of Proprietary Schools has authority to recommend for adoption and to administer all policies, regulations, and standards which it deems necessary for the operation of the Office of Proprietary Schools.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall hire an executive director of the Office of Proprietary Schools, who shall serve as chief administrative officer of the Office of Proprietary Schools, or contract with an outside consultant to serve as the executive director. The compensation of this position shall be fixed by the State Board of Proprietary Schools from funds provided by fees deposited in the Commercial Education Fund.

The State Board of Proprietary Schools may hire other employees as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this Article. The compensation of the staff members hired by the State Board of Proprietary Schools shall be fixed by the State Board of Proprietary Schools upon recommendation of the Executive Director of the Office of Proprietary Schools. The Executive Director shall provide an annual projected operating budget to the State Board of Proprietary Schools. The budget will be approved by the State Board of Proprietary Schools from funds provided by fees deposited in the Commercial Education Fund.

15D-89.3. State Board of Proprietary Schools and State Board of Community Colleges; licensing authority and coordination of responsibilities to administer <u>Article.</u>

The State Board of Community Colleges, having the authority under G.S. 115D-89 to grant and issue licenses to proprietary schools by and through the State Board of Proprietary Schools, shall receive written recommendation from the State Board of Proprietary Schools concerning applicants for licenses and annual renewal applications for licenses. The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall prepare and have approved by the State Board of Community Colleges a certificate of license that reflects the recommendation of the State Board of Proprietary Schools and approval by the State Board of Community Colleges. The State Board of Community Colleges shall also receive from the State Board of Proprietary Schools and have authority concerning proposed changes to the General Statutes and rules affecting proprietary schools. The State Board of Community Colleges shall receive a written report annually from the State Board of Proprietary Schools to include the number of schools receiving initial licenses during the previous year, a list of currently licensed proprietary schools, school closures during the previous year, including a complete report of actions concerning any catastrophic closures, complaints received and resulting decisions or actions, total fees received, and balances of the Commercial Education Fund and the Student Protection Fund. The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall provide the State Board of Community Colleges with any information requested."

SECTION 2. G.S. 115D-88(4c) reads as rewritten:

- "(4c) Classes or schools that the State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, <u>State Board of Proprietary Schools</u> determines are avocational, recreational, self-improvement, or continuing education for already trained and occupationally qualified individuals."
- SECTION 3. G.S. 115D-89 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-89. State Board of Community Colleges to administer Article; issuance of diplomas by schools; investigation and inspection; rules.

(a) The State Board of Community Colleges, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, <u>State Board of Proprietary Schools</u>, shall have authority to administer and enforce this Article and to grant and issue licenses to proprietary schools whose sustained curriculum is of a grade equal to that prescribed for similar public schools and educational institutions of the State and which have met the standards set forth by the Board, including but not limited to course offerings, adequate facilities, financial stability, competent personnel and legitimate operating practices.

(b) Any such proprietary school may by and with the approval of the State Board <u>of</u> <u>Community Colleges</u> issue certificates and diplomas.

(c) The State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, State Board of Proprietary Schools, shall formulate the criteria and the standards evolved thereunder for the approval of such schools or educational institutions, provide for

adequate investigations of all schools applying for a license and issue licenses to those applicants meeting the standards fixed by the State Board, maintain a list of schools approved under the provisions of this Article which list shall be available for the information of the public, and provide for periodic inspection of all schools licensed under the provisions of this Article. Through periodic reports required of licensed schools and by inspections made by authorized representatives of the State Board of Community Colleges, the State Board of Community Colleges representatives, the State Board of Community Colleges, acting by and through the State Board of Proprietary Schools, shall have general supervision over proprietary schools in the State, the object of said supervision being to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by having the proprietary schools maintain adequate, safe and sanitary school quarters, sufficient and proper facilities and equipment, sufficient and qualified teaching and administrative staff, and satisfactory programs of operation and instruction, and to have the school carry out its advertised promises and contracts made with its students and patrons. To this end end, the State Board of Community Colleges Colleges, acting by and through the State Board of Proprietary Schools, is authorized to issue such rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this Article as are necessary to administer the provisions of this Article.

The State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, <u>State Board of Proprietary Schools</u>, may request any occupational licensing or approving board or agency in this State to adopt rules requiring the approval of that board or agency for a course of study. Under these rules, the board or agency shall pass on the adequacy of equipment, curricula, and instructional personnel. The State Board of Community Colleges may deny approval to a course of study that is not approved by such board or agency."

SECTION 4. G.S. 115D-90 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-90. License required; application for license; school bulletins; requirements for issuance of license; license restricted to courses indicated; supplementary applications.

(a) No person shall operate, conduct or maintain or offer to operate in this State a proprietary school unless a license is first secured from the State Board of Community Colleges granted in accordance with the provisions of this Article and the rules adopted by the Board under the authority of G.S. 115D-89. The license, when issued, shall constitute the formal acceptance by the Board of the educational programs and facilities of each school approved.

(b) Application for a license shall be filed in the manner and upon the forms prescribed and furnished by the President of the Community College System State Board of Proprietary Schools for that purpose. Such application shall be signed by the applicant and properly verified and shall contain such of the following information as may apply to the particular school for which a license is sought:

- (1) The title or name of the school or classes, together with the name and address of the owners and of the controlling officers thereof.
- (2) The general field of instruction.
- (3) The place or places where such instruction will be given.
- (4) A specific listing of the equipment available for instruction in each field.
- (5) The qualifications of instructors and supervisors.
- (6) Financial resources available to equip and to maintain the school or classes.
- (7) Such additional information as the State Board, acting by and through the <u>President of the Community College System, State Board of Proprietary</u> <u>Schools, may deem necessary to enable it to determine the adequacy of the</u> program of instruction and matters pertaining thereto. Each application shall be accompanied by a copy of the current bulletin or catalog of the school which shall be in published form and certified by an authorized official of the school as being current, true, and correct in content and policy. The school bulletin shall contain the following information:
 - a. Identifying data, such as volume number and date of publication.
 - b. Names of the institution and its governing body, officials and faculty.
 - c. A calendar of the institution showing legal holidays, beginning and ending date of each quarter, term or semester, and other important dates.
 - d. Institution's policy and regulations relative to leave, absences, class cuts, make-up work, tardiness and interruptions for unsatisfactory attendance.

- e. Institution's policy and regulations on enrollment with respect to enrollment dates and specific entrance requirements for each course.
- f. Institution's policy and regulations relative to standards of progress required of the student by the institution. This policy will define the grading system of the institution; the minimum grades considered satisfactory; conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory grades or progress and description of the probationary period, if any, allowed by the institution; and conditions of reentrance for those students dismissed for unsatisfactory progress. A statement will be made regarding progress records kept by the institution and furnished the student.
- g. Institution's policy and regulations relating to student conduct and conditions for dismissal for unsatisfactory conduct.
- h. Detailed schedule for fees, charges for tuition, books, supplies, tools, student activities, laboratory fees, service charges, rentals, deposits, and all other charges.
- i. Policy and regulations of the institution relative to the refund of the unused portion of tuition, fees and other charges in the event the student does not enter the course or withdraws or is discontinued therefrom. The policy and regulations shall provide for, at a minimum, a full refund if a student withdraws before the first day of class or the school cancels the class and a seventy-five percent (75%) refund if the student withdraws within the first twenty-five percent (25%) of the period of enrollment for which the student was charged.
- j. A description of the available space, facilities and equipment.k. A course outline for each course for which approval is rec
- k. A course outline for each course for which approval is requested, showing:
 - 1. Subjects or units in the course,
 - 2. Type of skill to be learned, and
 - 3. Approximate (i) time; (ii) clock hours, and (iii) credit hours or credit hours equivalent, as appropriate, to be spent on each subject or unit.
- 1. Policy and regulations of the institution relative to granting credit for previous educational training.

(c) After due investigation and consideration on the part of the State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, State Board of Proprietary Schools, as provided herein, a license shall be granted to the applicant when it is shown to the satisfaction of said the State Board that said applicant, school, programs of study or courses are found to have met the following criteria:

- (1) The courses, curriculum and instruction are consistent in quality, content and length with similar courses in public schools and other private schools in the State, with recognized accepted standards.
- (2) There is in the institution adequate space, equipment, instructional material and instructor personnel to provide training of good quality.
- (3) Education and experience qualifications of director, administrators and instructors are adequate.
- (4) The institution maintains a written record of the previous education and training of the student.
- (5) A copy of the course outline, schedule of tuition, fees and other charges, regulations pertaining to absences, grading policy and rules of operation and conduct will be furnished the student upon enrollment.
- (6) Upon completion of training, the student is given a certificate or diploma by the institution indicating the approved course or subjects and indicating that training was satisfactorily completed.
- (7) Adequate records as prescribed by the State Board of Community Colleges, acting by and through the President of the Community College System, State Board of Proprietary Schools, are kept to show attendance and progress or grades and satisfactory standards relating to attendance, progress and conduct are enforced.

- (8) The school complies with all local, city, county, municipal, State and federal regulations, such as fire codes, building and sanitation codes. The State Board of Community Colleges may require such evidence of compliance as is deemed necessary.
- (9) The school is financially sound and capable of fulfilling its commitments for training.
- (10) The school does not exceed its enrollment limitation as established by the State Board of Community Colleges.
- (11) The school does not utilize advertising of any type which is erroneous or misleading, either by actual statement, omission or intimation.
- (12) The school's administrators, directors, owners and instructors are of good reputation and character.
- (13) Such additional criteria as may be deemed necessary by the State Board.Board of Community Colleges.

(d) Any license issued shall be restricted to the programs of instruction or courses or subjects specifically indicated in the application for a license. The holder of a license shall present a supplementary application as may be directed by the President of the Community College System State Board of Proprietary Schools for approval of additional programs of instruction, courses, or subjects, in which it is desired to offer instruction during the effective period of the license."

SECTION 5. G.S. 115D-91 reads as rewritten:

- "§ 115D-91. Duration and renewal of licenses; notice of change of ownership, administration, etc.; license not transferable.
- (a) All licenses issued shall expire on June 30 next following the date of issuance.June 30.

(b) Unless a duration is otherwise prescribed by the State Board of Community Colleges, licenses shall be renewable annually on July 1 if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) An application for the renewal of the license has been filed in the form and manner prescribed by the State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System. State Board of Proprietary Schools.
- (2) The renewal fee has been paid.
- (3) The school and its courses, facilities, faculty and all other operations are found to meet the criteria set forth in the requirements for a school to secure an original license.

(c) After a license is granted to any school by the State Board of Community Colleges on the basis of its application, it shall be the responsibility of said school to notify immediately said the State Board of any changes in the ownership, administration, location, faculty, the instructional program or other changes as may affect significantly the course of instruction offered.

(d) In the event of the sale of such school, the license already granted to the original owner or operators thereof shall not be transferable to the new ownership or operators. Provided, however, the President of the Community College System State Board of Proprietary Schools may issue a 90-day, temporary operating license to a school upon its sale if the school held a valid, current license prior to the sale, and if the President State Board of Proprietary Schools finds that the school is likely to qualify after the sale for a license under this Article."

SECTION 6. G.S. 115D-92 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-92. Authority to establish fees; Commercial Education Fund established; refund of fees.

The State Board of Community Colleges State Board of Proprietary Schools, as provided in <u>G.S. 115D-89.3</u>, shall establish reasonable fees for licenses, renewals, and approvals granted, and for inspections performed pursuant to this <u>Article.Article in accordance with Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.</u>

The fees and licenses collected under this section shall be placed in a special fund to be designated the "Commercial Education Fund" and shall be used under the supervision and direction of the State Board of Community Colleges State Board of Proprietary Schools for the administration of this Article. No license fee shall be refunded in the event the application is rejected or the license suspended or revoked."

SECTION 7. G.S. 115D-93 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-93. Suspension, revocation or refusal of license; notice and hearing; judicial review; grounds.

(a) A refusal to issue, refusal to renew, suspension of, or revocation of a license under this section shall be made in accordance with Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

(b) A decision under this section to refuse to grant, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke a license is subject to judicial review in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

(c) The State Board, acting by and through the <u>President of the Community College</u> System, <u>State Board of Proprietary Schools</u>, shall have the power to refuse to issue or renew any such license and to suspend or revoke any such license theretofore issued in case it finds one or more of the following:

- (1) That the applicant for or holder of such a license has violated any of the provisions of this Article or any of the rules promulgated thereunder.
- (2) That the applicant for or holder of such a license has knowingly presented to the State Board of Community Colleges false or misleading information relating to approval or license.
- (3) That the applicant for or holder of such a license has failed or refused to permit authorized representatives of the State Board of Community Colleges to inspect the school, or has refused to make available to them at any time upon request full information pertaining to matters within the purview of the State Board of Community Colleges under the provisions of this Article.
- (4) That the applicant for or holder of such a license has perpetrated or committed fraud or deceit in advertising the school or in presenting to the prospective students written or oral information relating to the school, to employment opportunities, or to opportunities for enrollment in other institutions upon completion of the instruction offered in the school.
- (5) That the applicant or licensee has pleaded guilty, entered a plea of nolo contendere or has been found guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude by a judge or jury in any state or federal court.
- (6) That the applicant or licensee has failed to provide or maintain premises, equipment or conditions which are adequate, safe and sanitary, in accordance with such standards of the State of North Carolina or any of its political subdivisions, as are applicable to such premises and equipment.
- (7) That the licensee is employing teachers, supervisors or administrators who have not been approved by the State Board, acting by and through the President of the Community College System. State Board of Proprietary Schools.
- (8) That the licensee has failed to provide and maintain adequate premises, equipment, materials or supplies, or has exceeded the maximum enrollment for which the school or class was licensed.
- (9) That the licensee has failed to provide and maintain adequate standards of instruction or an adequate and qualified administrative, supervisory or teaching staff.
- (10) That the applicant for or a holder of a license has failed to provide a required bond or bond alternative.
- (11) That the applicant for or holder of a license has failed to pay assessments into the Student Protection Fund."

SECTION 8. G.S. 115D-95(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Amount. – An applicant for a license must file a bond with the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges executed by the applicant as a principal and by a bonding company authorized to do business in this State. The bond must be payable to the State Board of Community Colleges, must be conditioned on fulfillment of the school's obligations, and must remain in effect until cancelled by the bonding company. The bonding company may cancel the bond upon 30 days' notice to the State Board of Community Colleges.

The application must set out calculations made by the applicant to determine the amount of bond required with the application. The required amount is determined as follows:

(1) Initial licensure. – For an applicant for initial licensure of a school, the bond amount is the amount determined by the State Board that is adequate to provide indemnification to any student, or the student's parent or guardian

who has suffered a loss of tuition, fees, or any other instructional-related expenses paid to the school. A bond amount shall be at least twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

- (2) First four renewals. For a school that has been licensed for one year but less than six years, the bond shall be in an amount equal to the greatest amount of unearned paid tuition in the school's possession at anytime during the prior fiscal year. The bond amount shall be evaluated by the school quarterly and reported to the State Board or its representative. A quarterly evaluation requiring an increase of five percent (5%) or more in the amount of the bond held by the school shall require an immediate increase in the bond amount. Bond amounts also shall be evaluated pursuant to this subdivision and the rules of the State Board <u>of Community Colleges and State Board of Proprietary Schools at the time of the school's annual license renewal and increased if necessary regardless of the amount of the change.</u>
- (3) Schools in operation more than five years. A guaranty bond shall be required for license renewal for a school that has been continuously licensed to operate for more than five years in the State, as follows:
 - a. If the balance of the Student Protection Fund in G.S. 115D-95.1 is below the catastrophic loss amount, the school shall file a guaranty bond in an amount equal to the maximum amount of prepaid tuition held by the school during the prior fiscal year multiplied by the percentage amount the fund is deficient.
 - b. If the school held prepaid tuition in excess of the Student Protection Fund catastrophic loss amount during the prior fiscal year, in addition to any bond amount required by sub-subdivision a. of this subdivision, the school shall file a guaranty bond for the difference between the prepaid tuition amount held in the previous fiscal year and the Fund catastrophic loss amount."

SECTION 9. G.S. 115D-95.1 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115D-95.1. Student Protection Fund.

- (a) Definitions. As used in this section:
 - (1) "Catastrophic loss amount" means the amount of funds required to protect prepaid student tuition in case of a large-scale event that would draw against the Student Protection Fund. The amount is one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
 - (2) "Fund cap amount" means the catastrophic loss amount plus a reserve amount. The amount is one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000).

(b) Student Protection Fund. – The Student Protection Fund is established in the Department of State Treasurer as a statewide fee-supported fund. Interest accruing to the Fund is credited to the Fund. The State Board of <u>Community Colleges Proprietary Schools</u> administers the Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to compensate students enrolled in a proprietary school licensed under this Article who have suffered a loss of tuition, fees, or any other instructional-related expenses paid to the school by reason of the failure of the school to offer or complete student instruction, academic services, or other goods and services related to course enrollment if the school ceases to operate for any reason, including the suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of a school's license, bankruptcy, or foreclosure.

(c) Student Protection Fund Advisory Committee. — The President of the North Carolina Community College System shall appoint a Student Protection Fund Advisory Committee. Members of the Committee shall be appointed for terms of three years. <u>The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall serve as the Student Protection Advisory Committee</u>. The Committee shall advise the State Board of Community Colleges on matters related to the Fund, including, but not limited to, the adjustment of the catastrophic loss amount and Fund cap amount.

The Committee shall consist of seven members as follows:

- (1) Three professional staff members of the Community Colleges System Office.
- (2) An owner/director of a proprietary school with less than 100 students, or the owner/director's designee.

- (3)An owner/director of a proprietary school with between 100 and 750 students, or the owner/director's designee.
- (4)An owner/director of a proprietary school or group of proprietary schools with more than 750 students, or the owner/director's designee.
- (5)An owner/director of a proprietary school appointed at large, or the owner/director's designee.

Initial Payment. – Prior to its first year of operation in the State, each proprietary (d) school shall pay an initial amount of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars (\$1,250) into the Fund.

Annual Revenue Payment. – Each proprietary school operating in the State shall pay (e) annually into the Fund an amount based on its annual gross tuition revenue generated in the State as follows:

Annual Gross Tuition Revenue	Amount of Assessment
\$1.00 - \$25,000	\$200.00
\$25,001 - \$50,000	\$250.00
\$50,001 - \$100,000	\$300.00
\$100,001 - \$200,000	\$400.00
\$200,001 - \$300,000	\$500.00
\$300,001 - \$400,000	\$600.00
\$400,001 - \$500,000	\$700.00
\$500,001 - \$750,000	\$1,000
\$750,001 - \$1,000,000	\$1,250
\$1,000,001 - \$1,500,000	\$1,500
1,500,001 - 2,000,000	\$2,000
Greater than \$2,000,000	\$2,000 plus one-twentieth of one percent
	(.05%) of annual gross tuition revenue
	over \$2,000,000.

Suspension of Payments. - If the Student Protection Fund balance is equal to or (f) exceeds the Fund cap amount, the State Board of Community Colleges Proprietary Schools shall suspend payments into the Fund for schools that have been continuously licensed in the State for more than eight years. The State Board of Proprietary Schools shall require schools to resume payments into the Fund if the balance of the Fund is less than the catastrophic loss amount.

Catastrophic Assessments. - If claims against the Student Protection Fund exceed (g) the catastrophic loss amount, the State Board of Community Colleges Proprietary Schools may assess additional fees to the extent necessary to compensate students qualified for repayment under the Fund. The amount of the catastrophic assessment shall not exceed one-half of the amount of the annual revenue payment required by subsection (e) of this section. If the amount of the catastrophic assessment will be insufficient to cover qualified claims, the State Board shall develop a method of allocating funds among claims.

Payment Required for Proprietary School Licensure. – The full and timely payment (h) into the Fund pursuant to this section is a condition of licensure.

Payments Nonrefundable. - No payment to the Student Protection Fund shall be (i) refunded in the event that a school's license application is rejected or a school's license is suspended or revoked.

Student Repayment. - A student, or the student's parent or guardian, who has (j) suffered a loss of tuition, fees, or any other instructional-related expenses paid to a proprietary school licensed under this Article by reason of the school ceasing to operate for any reason, including the suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of a school's license, bankruptcy, or foreclosure, may qualify for repayments under the Student Protection Fund. The State Board of Community Colleges first must issue repayment from the bonds issued under G.S. 115D-95. If the Student Protection Fund is insufficient to cover the qualified claims, the State Board must develop a method of allocating funds among claims.

Rules. - The State Board of Community CollegesProprietary Schools shall adopt (k) rules for the implementation of this section."

SECTION 10. Effective July 1, 2011, two positions in the Community Colleges System Office of Proprietary Schools shall be terminated.

SECTION 11. Appointments to the State Board of Proprietary Schools shall be made within 30 days after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 12. Sections 1 through 9 of this act become effective January 1, 2012. Section 10 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2011. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 18th day of June, 2011.

s/ Philip E. Berger President Pro Tempore of the Senate

- s/ Thom Tillis Speaker of the House of Representatives
- s/ Beverly E. Perdue Governor

Approved 10:42 a.m. this 27th day of June, 2011