

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

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HOUSE BILL 587  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/28/15

Short Title: School Flexibility Act.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 6, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC SCHOOL FLEXIBILITY.  
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-105.37B is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

5 "(e) The Department of Public Instruction shall conduct professional development  
6 workshops in each region of the State that provide information on the four school reform  
7 models set forth in subsection (a) of this section. In conducting the workshops, particular  
8 emphasis shall be placed on the restart model in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section  
9 that provides local school administrative units with flexibility similar to charter schools with  
10 the local board of education maintaining control of the school. The Department may conduct a  
11 series of workshops but must conduct at least one workshop annually for superintendents and  
12 their designees."

13 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-105.25 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

14 "(d) The Department of Public Instruction shall conduct professional development  
15 workshops in each region of the State that provide information on the budget flexibility  
16 provided by this section for differentiated pay and other initiatives to improve student  
17 achievement. The Department may conduct a series of workshops but must conduct at least one  
18 workshop annually for the superintendents and their designees."

19 **SECTION 3.** The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative  
20 Education Oversight Committee by November 15, 2015, with recommendations on (i)  
21 improving the teacher licensing process in the areas of establishing initial pay for teachers who  
22 have been hired but their request for a North Carolina teacher's license has not been processed;  
23 (ii) efforts to automate the teacher licensing process; (iii) changes to the lateral entry process  
24 for teachers; (iv) whether to accept funds under Title II of the Elementary and Secondary  
25 Education Act, 20 U.S.C., Chapter 70, Subchapter II, which impacts the number of highly  
26 qualified teachers; and (v) streamlining the teacher licensing process.

27 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2015.

