

# Education

See full summary documents for additional detail

## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 6.1: Expand RISE Up Training and Credentialing Program. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 6.1 of S.L. 2022-74 extends the implementation of the RISE Up credentialing program (program) beyond only students at cooperative innovative high schools to also include students at community colleges. Additionally, the program must be implemented through the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium rather than only the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

This section modifies the interim and final reports required of the Community Colleges System Office to various entities, including the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, to be due December 1, 2022, and December 1, 2023, respectively, and modifies the content requirements for the reports to make clarifying changes and include the following additional information:

- Require information on the number of students who are in the process of receiving credentials, rather than only students who have received credentials.
- Require a list of community colleges and cooperative innovative high schools participating in the program.

This section became effective July 1, 2022, and the extension to community college students applies to students enrolled at community colleges in the 2022-2023 academic year.

## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 7.2: Increase School Resource Officer Grant Match in Low-Wealth Counties. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.2 of S.L. 2022-74 provides that public school units located, in whole or in part, in a county with at least one local school administrative unit that received low-wealth supplemental funding in the previous fiscal year will have grants for school resource officers matched at \$4.00 in State funds for every \$1.00 in non-State funds. All other public school units are matched on the basis of \$2.00 in State funds for every \$1.00 in non-State funds.

This section became effective July 1, 2022, and applies to grants issued for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 7.4: CTE Modernization and Support. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.4 of S.L. 2022-74 requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to provide \$2 million in grants in the 2022-2023 school year, awarded in accordance with certain priorities, to modernize Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming, materials, training, and development in middle schools. The grants must be used to procure and implement a career and workforce development platform that aligns with the North Carolina Career and Technical Education Standards with modules that assist teachers in preparing students for high-wage, high-growth career areas that include certain components.

The section also requires DPI to provide \$1 million in grants in the 2022-2023 school year to fund equipment and ancillary items such as greenhouses, cars, animals and livestock, or power tools for CTE programs, awarded in accordance with certain priorities.

Applications for both grant programs must be made available no later than the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, with applications submitted by January 15, 2023, and awarded or denied by DPI within 30 days.

Grant recipients must report to DPI on the outcomes of programs funded by the grants by October 15, 2023, and DPI must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the overall outcomes of the grant programs by December 15, 2023.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 7.7: Standards of Student Conduct. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.7 of S.L. 2022-74 applies the Article on student discipline to all public school units (local school administrative units, charter schools, regional schools, innovative schools, schools for the visually and hearing impaired, and laboratory schools) beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Additionally, it requires the governing bodies of public school units (governing body) to do the following:

- Beginning July 1, 2023, consult with teachers, school-based administrators, parents, and local law enforcement agencies when adopting policies related to student conduct.
- Beginning July 1, 2023, consider existing federal guidance for the discipline of students with disabilities and guidance on school discipline practices issued by the United States Department of Education when adopting discipline policies.
- Send the most current discipline policies and Code of Student Conduct to the Department of Public Instruction by September 1 annually.
- Publish all policies, administrative procedures, or school rules about student discipline at the beginning of each school year. The information must include the full range of responses to violations of disciplinary rules. The governing body can require students and parents or guardians to sign an acknowledgement that they received a copy of any discipline policies, procedures, or rules.

This section also clarifies that State law does not regulate the discretion of a governing body to devise, impose, and enforce personal appearance codes.

This section became effective July 11, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 7.9: School Threat Assessment Survey. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 4 of S.L. 2022-71 and Section 7.9 of S.L. 2022-74 are duplicate sections that require all public school units (PSUs) to report to the Center for Safer Schools by November 15, 2022, on the following:

- Any student threat assessment system in place and the number and nature of threats identified by that system.
- Responses to identified threats and results of those responses.
- Whether each school in the PSU has a School Risk Management Plan and the number of drills conducted under the plan.
- Any other systems, policies, procedures, or precautions undertaken with the purpose of minimizing violence and threats in schools.

By February 15, 2023, the Center for Safer Schools, in consultation with the Department of Public Instruction, must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on recommendations to the General Assembly on a system to identify and address threats in schools that can be implemented by PSUs statewide and any additional funding needed to support the system.

Section 4 of S.L. 2022-71 became effective July 8, 2022. Section 7.9 of S.L. 2022-74 became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 7.10: Codify the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.10 of S.L. 2022-74 codifies the Feminine Hygiene Products Grant Program (Program), which assists public school units (PSUs) in providing students with feminine hygiene products at no charge to the student. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) must award grants of up to \$5,000 each on a first-come, first-served basis, except that DPI must prioritize grants to PSUs that did not receive an award in the previous fiscal year. PSUs cannot receive more than one grant per fiscal year. By March 15 of each year, DPI must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the PSUs receiving grants under the Program, the specific feminine hygiene products purchased with grant funds, and the impact of the Program on student health and well-being.

This section became effective July 1, 2022. For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, DPI must prioritize awarding grants to PSUs that did not receive an award pursuant to the previously uncodified grant program.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 7.11: Interoperable and Interconnected Study Data System Study. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.11 of S.L. 2022-74 directs myFutureNC, Inc. to report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division on the requirements necessary to create an interconnected and interoperable real-time data system to facilitate communication, collection, and transition of student data between public school units, community colleges, and universities, as well as to provide students access to their own data. The report must be submitted by March 15, 2023, and must include at least the following:

- Current best practices regarding data warehouses, school district-community partnerships, and relationship management systems.
- Technology needed to create an interconnected and interoperable system along with a working prototype.
- Legal considerations for sharing data across institutional systems to conform with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

- Human capital and machine capabilities needed to develop data and analytical capacity across institutions.
- Any issue that can arise with cultural views on data as an individually owned resource as opposed to a collaborative tool.
- The potential role of existing State longitudinal data systems.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 7.13: Virtual Education, Remote Academies, and Virtual Charter School Education. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 7.13 of S.L. 2022-74 does the following:

- Repeals the sunset clause for the statute permitting limited virtual instruction during emergency conditions.
- Allows all local school administrative unit schools that provided full-time virtual instruction in the 2021-2022 school year to continue providing full-time virtual instruction in the 2022-2023 school year.
- Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, authorizes local school administrative units to establish remote academies that meet certain requirements to provide full-time virtual instruction.
- Allows all charter schools that provided full-time virtual instruction in the 2021-2022 school year to continue providing full-time virtual instruction in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Transitions the schools in the virtual charter school pilot program from pilot status to complete a 10-year charter, with eligibility for renewal upon expiration.

Except as otherwise provided, this act became effective July 11, 2022, and applies beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8.1: Revise University of North Carolina Enrollment Change Documentation Requirements. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8.1 of S.L. 2022-74 modifies the documentation and justification requirements for the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina when making enrollment change funding requests. When the enrollment change funding request is based on enrollment growth, the request must include the most recent academic year's actual enrollment numbers in the same format in which the growth increase request is made. When the enrollment change funding request is based on metrics other than enrollment growth, including student performance, the request must include identification of any metric used, and the portion of the funding request based on that metric for each constituent institution.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 8.3: Recommendations on Increasing Nursing Graduates. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8.3 of S.L. 2022-74 requires the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, in collaboration with the State Board of Community Colleges, to study and provide recommendations on methods and a timeline for increasing the number of graduates from nursing programs at constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and community colleges by at least 50%. The report is due to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services by no later than February 1, 2023.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 8.4: UNC and ECU Dental School Clinical Operations Personnel Flexibility. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8.4 of S.L. 2022-74 modifies the employment requirements that apply to personnel of Dental School Clinical Operations at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina University. Employees of both entities are deemed to be State employees and subject to relevant provisions of State law, including the following provisions of Chapter 126:

- Article 5 (Political Activity of Employees)
- Article 6 (Equal Employment and Compensation Opportunity; Assisting in Obtaining State Employment)
- Article 7 (The Privacy of State Employee Personnel Records)
- Article 14 (Protection for Reporting Improper Government Activities)

Except for the provisions described above, these employees are not subject to Chapter 126 of the General Statutes. Each entity's respective board of trustees is responsible for setting policies and procedures governing the terms and conditions of employment for these employees, including:

- Leave policies.
- Partial pay supplementing workers' compensation payments.
- Working conditions.
- Service awards and incentive award programs.
- Grounds for dismissal, demotion, or discipline.
- Other personnel policies or measures that promote the hiring and retention of capable, diligent, and effective career employees.
- Setting office hours, workdays, and holidays to be observed.
- Establishing boards, committees, or councils to conduct hearings upon the appeal of employees who have been suspended, demoted, otherwise disciplined, or discharged.

The board of trustees must submit initial classification and pay plans, as well as other rules and regulations, to the Office of State Human Resources for review.

Employees who achieve career State employee status by June 30, 2022, cannot have their compensation reduced by any rules or regulations adopted by the board of trustees pursuant to this authority. Additionally,

these career status employees must be subject to the discipline or discharge rules that were effective on June 30, 2022, and not any rules adopted after that date.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.1: Increase Funding and Eligibility Threshold for Opportunity Scholarships and Funding for Personal Education Student Accounts. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.1 of S.L. 2022-74 increases the funds appropriated from the General Fund to the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Reserve Fund for the next 15 years. The section also changes the income eligibility for Opportunity Scholarships so that students who reside in a household with an income level not in excess of 200% of the amount required for the student to qualify for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program are now eligible if they meet the other statutory criteria. Finally, this section increases the appropriations for funds for the Personal Education Student Accounts for Children with Disabilities Program.

This section became effective July 1, 2022. The income eligibility change applies beginning with applications for scholarship funds for the 2023-2024 school year.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.2: Limit Tuition Grants for Graduates of North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and University of North Carolina School of the Arts to Undergraduate Tuition. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.2 of S.L. 2022-74 clarifies that graduates of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts who receive certain four-year tuition grants can only use those grants for undergraduate tuition.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.3: Temporarily Waive Compliance with Certain Selective Service Requirements and Report. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.3 of S.L. 2022-74 temporarily waives, for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years only, the requirement that certain people comply with the selective service requirements as follows:

- A dependent relative of a member of the Armed Forces who is abiding in North Carolina due to active military duty can be charged the in-State tuition rate without complying with the requirements of the Selective Service System.
- A person who is required by federal law to comply with the requirements of the Selective Service System but fails to do so can receive State-supported scholarships, programs for financial assistance for postsecondary education, or loans insured by any State agency.

The State Education Assistance Authority is required to report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2023, on the following recommendations related to compliance with the selective service requirements:

- The practicability and advisability of ensuring compliance.
- Methods of ensuring compliance and their merits.
- Administrative costs and other barriers to ensuring compliance.
- Any other relevant information.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.4: Early Admission to Kindergarten for Students Participating in North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority K-12 Scholarship Programs. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.4 of S.L. 2022-74 requires the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) to establish a rule regarding Opportunity Scholarship and Personal Education Savings Account eligibility for four-year-old children. SEAA must adopt the same factors for four-year-old eligibility as the rule adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-354(d) for four-year-olds attending public schools. A child who turns four by April 16 is eligible to attend school the following year if the principal, or equivalent, of the school finds that the student meets the adopted requirements.

This section became effective July 11, 2022, and applies beginning with applications for scholarship grants for the 2023-2024 school year.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.5: Changes to NCSEAA's Administration of the Opportunity Scholarship Program. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.5 of S.L. 2022-74 makes the following changes to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority's (Authority) administration of the Opportunity Scholarship Program (Program):

- Provides that a criminal background check be conducted for the staff member with the highest decision-making authority at a nonpublic school that admits students who receive Opportunity Scholarships. The background check must be given to the Authority and is not a public record. The criminal history must be reviewed by the Board of Directors of the Authority to ensure that the person has not been convicted of specified crimes, and written findings must be made to show how the criminal history was used in determining whether the nonpublic school is compliant with Program requirements. As a part of the criminal history review, the following disqualifying characteristics must be considered:
  - Whether a threat to the physical safety of students or personnel exists.
  - Whether the person demonstrates that he or she does not have the integrity or honesty to fulfill the duties of overseeing State funds and the requirements of the Program.
  - Whether the person has not satisfied the criminal sentencing obligations imposed following the conviction.
  - Requires a nonpublic school that admits students who receive Opportunity Scholarships to contract with a certified public accountant to perform a financial review for each school year where the

nonpublic school enrolls 70 or more students receiving scholarship grants or funds from the Authority.

- Directs the Authority to establish by rule a process for a nonpublic school to appeal a determination of ineligibility to accept scholarship grant funds if the nonpublic school has been deemed to not be in compliance with the Program requirements.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.6: Changes to North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority's Administration of Education Savings Accounts. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.6 of S.L. 2022-74 makes the following changes to the administration of the Personal Education Savings Accounts:

- Clarifies categories of disabilities eligible to receive higher scholarship amounts consistent with documentation for identification of children with disabilities.
- Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, requires that renewal for continued eligibility for scholarship funds for students whose primary disability is developmental delay must be assessed by a local educational agency. The State Education Assistance Authority must provide written notice to parents of all students impacted by this change by November 15, 2022.

Except as otherwise provided, this section became effective July 1, 2022.

### **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

#### **Sec. 8A.7: Revise Washington Center Internship Scholarship Program. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.7 of S.L. 2022-74 adjusts the Washington Center Internship Scholarship Program to include public policy and career readiness seminar programs that are one to four weeks long. The State Education Assistance Authority will award grants to students who are residents of North Carolina, are in their second year or higher at a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina, and are attending a program at The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars as follows:

- For semester term internships, up to \$10,000.
- For summer term internships, up to \$8,000.
- For seminar programs, up to \$4,000.

By December 1, 2022, the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina must develop and promulgate guidance to constituent institutions on a process for awarding up to three academic credit hours for participation in a Washington Center internship.

This section became effective July 1, 2022, and applies beginning with scholarships awarded for the 2023 spring academic semester.



## **H103 - 2022 Appropriations Act.**

### **Sec. 8A.8: Report on and Suspend Certain Program Evaluation Requirements for Opportunity Scholarships. (SL 2022-74)**

Section 8A.8 of S.L. 2022-74 temporarily suspends certain program evaluation requirements for Opportunity Scholarships, including the following:

- For the 2022-2023 school year, the requirement that nonpublic schools be ineligible to receive scholarship grants if they did not report aggregate test performance data of eligible students for the 2021-2022 school year. A nonpublic school cannot be ineligible to receive scholarship grants as a result of an inability to report this data.
- For the 2022-2023 school year, the requirement to report the aggregate test performance data of eligible students.
- For the 2022 and 2023 calendar years, the requirement to report learning gains or losses and the competitive effects of the Opportunity Scholarships program on public school performance.

By March 1, 2023, the State Education Assistance Authority, in collaboration with other entities, must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on at least the following information:

- Options and a timeline to implement the recommendations of the March 1, 2018, report of the task force established pursuant to Section 10A.6 of S.L. 2017-57.
- The estimated cost of each option provided in the March 1, 2018, task force report.
- Any legislative recommendations on improving the evaluation of students receiving Opportunity Scholarships.

This section became effective July 1, 2022.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 1.1 Create Additional Ways for Individuals to Earn a North Carolina Early Childhood Credential. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 1.1 of S.L. 2022-71 directs the North Carolina Child Care Commission to adopt a rule to expand how a North Carolina Early Childhood Credential can be earned by including the following additional pathways:

- Hold a currently active Child Development Associate Credential from the Council for Professional Recognition, a Certified Child Care Professional Credential from the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation, or a Montessori Credential.
- Earn a passing score on a test developed by the early childhood faculty of the North Carolina Community College System.
- Meet other equivalencies as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

**H159 - Education Law Changes.**

**Sec. 1.2 Modify North Carolina Pre-K Teacher Assistant Qualification Requirements. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 1.2 of S.L. 2022-71 prohibits the Division of Child Development and Early Education from requiring an individual working towards an Associate Degree to complete a minimum number of semester hours per year in order to be eligible for employment as an NC Pre-K teacher assistant.

This section became effective July 8, 2022, and expires December 31, 2023.

**H159 - Education Law Changes.**

**Sec. 2.1: Remove Codified Reference to Powerschool. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.1 of S.L. 2022-71 removes references to a specific student information system application used for reporting educational data and substitutes in its place the term "student information system."

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

**H159 - Education Law Changes.**

**Sec. 2.2: Modify School Crisis Kit Requirements. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.2 of S.L. 2022-71 removes the requirement that school crisis kits include items recommended by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

**H159 - Education Law Changes.**

**Sec. 2.3: Extend Charter School Enrollment Priority to Grandchildren of Employees or Board Members. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.3 of S.L. 2022-71 authorizes charter schools to give enrollment priority to grandchildren of charter school employees and members of the board of directors. This section expands the previous enrollment priority that was limited to children of employees or directors.

This section became effective July 8, 2022, and applies beginning with applications and enrollments for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 2.4: School Nutrition Changes. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.4 of S.L. 2022-71 modifies the vending machine sales restrictions to align with the federal competitive food and beverage standards. In addition, it makes various technical changes and clarifies school nutrition standards for local boards of education participating in the National School Lunch Program.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 2.5: Extending Benefits of Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.5 of S.L. 2022-71 provides children of inactive members of the National Guard and military reserves certain intrastate and interstate services related to school transfers if the student's parent is required to move to perform military service-related responsibilities. The required services are similar to those provided to military children under the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

This section became effective July 8, 2022, and applies beginning with the 2022-2023 academic school year.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 2.8: Extend Principal License Exemption. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 2.8 of S.L. 2022-71 requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to waive certain licensure requirements for individuals who have completed at least one course as part of a master's degree program or post-master's certificate designed for school administrators that was offered by an educator preparation program approved by the SBE prior to August 31, 2024.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 3.1 Conform Apprenticeship to Federal Law. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.1 of S.L. 2022-71 makes changes to the apprenticeship statutes to conform to federal standards for apprenticeships. Under federal law, there are three ways to measure the term of an apprenticeship program, including:

- Time-based approach: Completion of at least 2,000 hours through the completion of the industry standard for on-the-job learning.
- Competency-based approach: Attainment of competency.
- Hybrid approach: A blend of the time-based and competency-based approaches.

This section revises the definition of "apprentice" in State law, as well as the contents of apprenticeship agreements, to conform to the federal standards for apprenticeships, including allowing multiple measures for terms of the apprenticeship.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

### **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

#### **Sec. 3.2: Permit Community Colleges to Collaborate with Public and Nonpublic Schools for Certain Programs. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.2 of S.L. 2022-71 allows North Carolina community colleges to enroll students from public school units and nonpublic schools (private and home schools) in academic transition and college transfer pathway courses of the Career and College Promise Program.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

### **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

#### **Sec. 3.3: Revise Allowable Literacy Fund Uses. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.3. of S.L. 2022-71 eliminates the discretion of the State Board of Community Colleges to vary use of State Literacy funds.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

### **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

#### **Sec. 3.4: North Carolina Principal Fellows and North Carolina Teaching Fellows Changes. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.4 of S.L. 2022-71 renames the North Carolina Principal Fellows and Transforming Principal Preparation Program as the North Carolina Principal Fellows Program (Principal Fellows). The chair of the Board of the State Education Assistance Authority is authorized to select another person to serve in the chair's place on the Commissions for both the Principal Fellows and Teacher Fellows programs.

This section became effective July 8, 2022.

### **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

#### **Sec. 3.5: Expand North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Board of Trustees. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.5 of S.L. 2022-71 expands the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) Board of Trustees to reflect the newly created congressional district for North Carolina. Previously, the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina was required to appoint one member from each

of the State's 13 congressional districts. This section removes the explicit numerical reference and simply aligns these appointments with the number of congressional districts.

This section becomes effective July 1, 2023, at which time the newly appointed member of the Board of Trustees will be appointed for a term ending June 30, 2027.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 3.6: Clarify Eligibility of Disabled Veterans for Patriot Star Family Scholarship Programs. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 3.6 of S.L. 2022-71 clarifies the definition of "eligible disabled veteran" to include veterans who incurred traumatic injuries, wounds, or illness as a member of the Armed Forces while training in preparation for future conflicts if the veteran is receiving compensation of at least 50% as rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as a result of those injuries, wounds, or illness.

This section became effective July 1, 2021, and applies to applications for scholarship awards submitted on or after that date.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 4: School Threat Assessment Survey. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 4 of S.L. 2022-71 and Section 7.9 of S.L. 2022-74 are duplicate sections that require all public school units (PSUs) to report to the Center for Safer Schools by November 15, 2022, on the following:

- Any student threat assessment system in place and the number and nature of threats identified by that system.
- Responses to identified threats and results of those responses.
- Whether each school in the PSU has a School Risk Management Plan and the number of drills conducted under the plan.
- Any other systems, policies, procedures, or precautions undertaken with the purpose of minimizing violence and threats in schools.

By February 15, 2023, the Center for Safer Schools, in consultation with the Department of Public Instruction, must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on recommendations to the General Assembly on a system to identify and address threats in schools that can be implemented by PSUs statewide and any additional funding needed to support the system.

Section 4 of S.L. 2022-71 became effective July 8, 2022. Section 7.9 of S.L. 2022-74 became effective July 1, 2022.

## **H159 - Education Law Changes.**

### **Sec. 5: Advanced Teaching Role Changes. (SL 2022-71)**

Section 5 of S.L. 2022-71 removes the requirement that the State Board of Education (SBE) report on an independent research organization's evaluation of the Advanced Teaching Roles program by October 15,

2021, and instead requires reports by October 15 in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Beginning in 2025, the SBE must perform the evaluation and provide the report annually to various entities, including the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. The Department of Public Instruction can use up to \$200,000 of appropriated funds in each year of the 2021-2023 biennium to contract with the independent research organization.

This section became effective June 30, 2022.

### **H177 - Extend Spiking Moratorium/LGERS Surety. (SL 2022-70)**

S.L. 2022-70 extends the pension-spiking moratorium enacted in S.L. 2021-72 from June 30, 2022, to June 30, 2023, and requires the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System's (LGERS) Board of Trustees to adopt rules for eligible employers that do not have taxing authority in order to cover a withdrawal liability should they cease participation in the Retirement System.

This act became effective June 30, 2022.

### **H661 - Age Requirement Modifications/Capital Projects Oversight/BEAD Corrections. (SL 2022-69)**

S.L. 2022-69 does the following:

- Clarifies that qualified youth 15 years of age and older can enroll in fire training courses at community colleges on or after January 1, 2021.
- Reduces the age requirement for malt beverage wholesaler salesmen from 21 to 18 years.
- Allows persons 15 years of age to work inside premises that serve alcohol until December 31, 2023.
- Eliminates a requirement that the State Building Commission and Director of the Budget approve guidelines adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges that must be met by community colleges in order to be delegated authority over capital improvement projects.
- Provides that the Department of Administration is not required to review and approve plans and specifications for a State-funded capital improvement project costing less than \$2 million that has been delegated to a community college unless requested to do so in writing by the State Board of Community Colleges.
- Eliminates an annual reporting obligation of the Community Colleges System Office for capital improvement projects estimated to require expenditure of less than \$2 million of public funds.
- Makes a technical correction to the 2022 Appropriations Act relating to the use of federal infrastructure funds by the Department of Information Technology for grants in the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program.

Except as otherwise provided, this act became effective July 8, 2022.

## **H911 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2022.**

### **Sec. 1: Clarify Requesting Board for Residency License. (SL 2022-75)**

Section 1 of S.L. 2022-75 clarifies that charter school boards can request that an individual be issued a residency license.

This section became effective July 12, 2022, and applies to individuals seeking licensure on or after that date.

## **H911 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2022.**

### **Sec. 2: Tolling the Terms of Charters to Allow Time to Obtain Land Use Approvals. (SL 2022-75)**

Section 2 of S.L. 2022-75 provides that a charter school is entitled to automatically extend any deadline to begin the term of its charter until the next school year if the school notifies the State Board of Education that it is seeking land use or development approvals for its selected site or if it is challenging the denial of any requested land use or development approvals. The term of the issued charter is tolled during the period of any extension.

This section became effective July 12, 2022.

## **S593 - Schools for the Deaf and Blind. (Ratified)**

SB 593 would have done the following:

- Create a board of trustees for each of the schools for the deaf and blind and provide for governance of those schools by the new boards.
- Establish an admissions process for the schools for the deaf and blind.
- Create a transition process for the schools to governance by the new boards of trustees beginning in 2023-2024.

SB 593 was ratified by the General Assembly on July 1, 2022, and vetoed by the Governor on July 11, 2022.

## **S671 - Virtual Education/Remote Academies/Virtual Charters. (SL 2022-59)**

S.L. 2022-59 does the following:

- Repeals the sunset clause for the statute permitting limited virtual instruction during emergency conditions.
- Allows all local school administrative unit schools that provided full-time virtual instruction in the 2021-2022 school year to continue providing full-time virtual instruction in the 2022-2023 school year.

- Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, authorizes local school administrative units to establish remote academies that meet certain requirements to provide full-time virtual instruction.
- Allows all charter schools that provided full-time virtual instruction in the 2021-2022 school year to continue providing full-time virtual instruction in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Transitions the schools in the virtual charter school pilot program from pilot status to complete a 10-year charter, with eligibility for renewal upon expiration.

Except as otherwise provided, this act became effective July 8, 2022, and applies beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.