

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE BILL 1246
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/23/01
Senate Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 6/6/01

Short Title: BOG Study Admissions/Youths in IHEs.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 12, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
3 NORTH CAROLINA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE STATE BOARD OF
4 EDUCATION AND THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES, TO
5 STUDY THE MEASURES USED FOR ADMISSIONS, PLACEMENT, AND
6 ADVANCED PLACEMENT DECISIONS BY THE CONSTITUENT
7 INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE'S UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, TO ALLOW
8 INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED YOUTHS TO ATTEND COMMUNITY
9 COLLEGES, AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN YOUTHS TO BE EMPLOYED BY
10 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

11 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

12 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Board of Governors of The University of North
13 Carolina, in cooperation with the State Board of Education and the State Board of
14 Community Colleges, shall study the measures used by the constituent institutions to
15 make admissions, placement, and advanced placement decisions regarding incoming
16 freshmen and shall assess the various uses made of those measures and the validity of
17 those measures with regard to a student's academic performance and as predictors of a
18 student's future academic performance. They shall also assess whether other alternative
19 measures may be equally valid or more accurate as indicators of a student's academic
20 performance. In the study, particular consideration should be given to whether or not to
21 eliminate, continue, or change the emphasis placed on the Scholastic Aptitude Test
22 (SAT) and ACT Assessment for North Carolina students as a mandatory university
23 admissions measure. The study should review incorporating the State's testing program
24 into admissions, placement, and advanced placement decisions. Based on its findings,
25 the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, in cooperation with the
26 State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges, may develop
27 recommendations to improve the measures used to assess a student's academic

1 performance, to adopt alternative measures, or to use various combinations of both to
2 determine more accurately a student's academic knowledge and performance.

3 **SECTION 1.(b)** The study required by subsection 1(a) of this act may
4 address all of the following:

5 (1) Admissions. – The Board of Governors may examine the key elements
6 used for making admissions decisions in the State's University System.
7 Included in the factors to be studied are grade point average, class
8 rank, and the SAT and ACT Assessment. Each element may be studied
9 for reliability and validity independently and as used together. The
10 Board of Governors may also compare the State's end-of-course
11 testing with the SAT and ACT Assessment, assess how each reflects a
12 student's academic performance, and consider shifting the emphasis
13 currently placed on the SAT and ACT Assessment as an admissions
14 measure to the State's end-of-course tests or other available tests as an
15 admissions measure. In its study, the Board of Governors may
16 consider eliminating, continuing, or changing the emphasis placed on
17 the SAT and ACT Assessment as an admissions measure for North
18 Carolina students applying to the State's constituent institutions. The
19 Board of Governors may also consider methods for accurately
20 comparing the academic performance of applicants who do not have
21 the benefit of the State's end-of-course testing program with
22 applicants who do have the State's testing program.

23 Recommendations should be made to improve the consistency and
24 fairness of each measure independently and as used together for
25 admissions decisions. These recommendations may include the use of
26 North Carolina end-of-course tests as an element in admissions
27 decisions alone or in combination with a change of the weight of
28 emphasis on the SAT and ACT Assessment. The recommendations
29 may also include maintaining the current process.

30 The Board of Governors may review with the State Board of
31 Education recommendations that incorporate end-of-course testing as
32 part of the admissions process. The State Board of Education may
33 develop recommendations to improve the alignment of end-of-course
34 tests and secondary coursework with the expectations of the
35 constituent institutions and the State Board of Community Colleges.

36 (2) Placement. – The Board of Governors may consider reviewing the
37 assessment methods currently used by constituent institutions for
38 remediation placement decisions. Recommendations may be
39 developed to provide greater consistency, reliability, and validity for
40 remediation decisions. North Carolina end-of-course tests may be
41 considered for use in these decisions.

1 (3) Advanced placement testing. – The Board of Governors may review
2 the use of test scores in granting college-level course credit by
3 constituent institutions.

4 (4) Other relevant issues. – The Board of Governors may study any other
5 issues relevant to college and university admissions, placement, and
6 advanced placement measures.

7 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Board of Governors may make an interim report
8 regarding its studies and plans to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
9 no later than March 1, 2002, and shall submit a final report to that Committee by
10 December 1, 2003. It is recommended that the study continue beyond the final report
11 date. Interim and final reports of the Committee may include recommended legislation.

12 **SECTION 2.** Article 1 of Chapter 115D of the General Statutes is amended
13 by adding a new section to read:

14 **"§ 115D-1.1. Discretion in admissions.**

15 Notwithstanding G.S. 115D-1, a student under the age of 16 may enroll in a
16 community college if the president of the community college or the president's designee
17 finds, based on criteria established by the State Board of Community Colleges, that the
18 student is intellectually gifted and that the student has the maturity to justify admission
19 to the community college. The State Board of Community Colleges shall adopt rules to
20 implement this section."

21 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 95-25.5 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

22 "(m) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, youths who are enrolled
23 at an institution of higher education may be employed by the institution provided the
24 employment is not hazardous. As used in this subsection, "institution of higher
25 education" means any constituent institution of The University of North Carolina, any
26 North Carolina community college, or any college or university that awards
27 postsecondary degrees."

28 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.