

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

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**SENATE BILL 947  
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/25/01**

Short Title: Sch. Speech Path. & Psychol./Mentors.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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April 5, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1  
2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND  
3 SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN  
4 THE MENTOR PROGRAM IN THE SAME MANNER AS TEACHERS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-296(e) reads as rewritten:

7 "(e) The State Board of Education shall develop a mentor program to provide  
8 ongoing support for teachers entering the profession. In developing the mentor program,  
9 the State Board shall conduct a comprehensive study of the needs of new teachers and  
10 how those needs can be met through an orientation and mentor support program. For the  
11 purpose of helping local boards to support new teachers, the State Board shall develop  
12 and distribute guidelines which address optimum teaching load, extracurricular duties,  
13 student assignment, and other working condition considerations. These guidelines shall  
14 provide that initially certified teachers not be assigned extracurricular activities unless  
15 they request the assignments in writing and that other noninstructional duties of these  
16 teachers be minimized. The State Board shall develop and coordinate a mentor teacher  
17 training program. The State Board shall develop criteria for selecting excellent,  
18 experienced, and qualified teachers to be participants in the mentor teacher training  
19 program.

20 Speech and language pathologists who are licensed to practice under G.S. 90-293  
21 and are permanently licensed by the State Board of Education as speech and language  
22 specialists may serve as mentors for speech and language pathologists under the mentor  
23 program.

24 School psychologists who are permanently licensed by the State Board of Education  
25 as school psychologists may serve as mentors for school psychologists under the mentor  
26 program."

27 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2001.