

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001**

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**SENATE BILL 966  
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/24/01**

Short Title: Modify Prof. Dev. Reports/Ed Oversight Study.

(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 AMEND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND BOARD OF  
3 GOVERNORS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL  
4 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND TO DIRECT THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE  
5 EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND MAKE  
6 RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN  
7 NORTH CAROLINA.

8       Whereas, it is the policy of the State of North Carolina to continue to improve  
9 student academic achievement; and

10       Whereas, research shows that well-trained teachers and school administrators  
11 are critical to providing effective instruction to students; and

12       Whereas, the State has invested substantial funds to provide for professional  
13 development programs for public school professionals; and

14       Whereas, the General Assembly has not received sufficient information to  
15 demonstrate that the current use of funds for professional development is having a  
16 positive impact on student achievement; and

17       Whereas, the current budget situation demands that the General Assembly be  
18 assured that State funds are being used in an effective and efficient manner; Now,  
19 therefore,

20 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

21       **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-12(26) reads as rewritten:

22       **"§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.**

23       The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be  
24 vested in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish  
25 policy for the system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General  
26 Assembly. The powers and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as  
27 follows:

28       ...

1           (26)     Duty to Monitor and Make Recommendations Regarding  
2                   Professional Development Programs. – The State Board of  
3                   Education, ~~in collaboration with the Board of Governors of The~~  
4                   ~~University of North Carolina, shall identify and make~~  
5                   ~~recommendations regarding meaningful professional development~~  
6                   ~~programs for professional public school employees. The programs~~  
7                   ~~shall be aligned with State education goals and directed toward~~  
8                   ~~improving student academic achievement. Education shall identify~~  
9                   State and local needs for professional development for professional  
10                  public school employees based upon the State's educational  
11                  priorities for improving student achievement. The State Board also  
12                  shall recommend strategies for addressing these needs. The  
13                  strategies must be research-based, proven in practice, and designed  
14                  for data-driven evaluation. The State Board shall report its findings  
15                  and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight  
16                  Committee, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker  
17                  of the House of Representatives, and the Board of Governors of  
18                  The University of North Carolina prior to January 15, 2002, and  
19                  shall review, revise, and resubmit those findings and  
20                  recommendations annually thereafter. The State Board shall  
21                  ~~annually evaluate and, after consultation with the Board of~~  
22                  ~~Governors, make recommendations regarding professional~~  
23                  ~~development programs based upon the reports submitted by the~~  
24                  ~~Board of Governors under G.S. 116-11(12a). G.S. 16-11(12a) to~~  
25                  ~~determine whether the programs for professional development~~  
26                  ~~provided by the Center for School Leadership Development~~  
27                  ~~address the State and local needs identified by the State Board and~~  
28                  ~~whether the programs are using the strategies recommended by the~~  
29                  ~~State Board. Prior to January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, the State Board~~  
30                  ~~shall report the results of its analysis to the Board of Governors and~~  
31                  ~~to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.~~

32           ...."

33           **SECTION 2.** G.S. 116-11(12a) reads are rewritten:

34   "**§ 116-11. Powers and duties generally.**

35       The powers and duties of the Board of Governors shall include the following:

36       ...

37       (12a) ~~The~~ Notwithstanding any other law, the Board of Governors of The  
38       University of North Carolina shall implement, administer, and revise  
39       programs for meaningful professional development for professional  
40       public school employees ~~based upon~~ in accordance with the  
41       evaluations and recommendations made by the State Board of  
42       Education under G.S. 115C-12(26). The programs shall be aligned

1 with State education goals and directed toward improving student  
2 academic achievement. ~~The Board of Governors shall submit to the~~  
3 ~~State Board of Education an annual report evaluating the professional~~  
4 ~~development programs administered by the Board of Governors. The~~  
5 Board of Governors shall submit to the State Board of Education an  
6 annual written report that uses data to assess and evaluate the  
7 effectiveness of the programs for professional development offered by  
8 the Center for School Leadership Development. The report shall  
9 clearly document how the programs address the State needs identified  
10 by the State Board of Education and whether the programs are utilizing  
11 the strategies recommended by the State Board. The Board of  
12 Governors also shall submit this report to the Joint Legislative  
13 Education Oversight Committee, the President Pro Tempore of the  
14 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives prior to  
15 September 15th of each year."

16 **SECTION 3.(a)** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall  
17 hire an independent consultant to study and make recommendations regarding  
18 professional development for public school professionals in North Carolina. The  
19 consultant shall study:

- 20 (1) The professional development programs administered under the UNC  
21 Center for School Leadership Development with regard to their  
22 mission, governance structure, efficiency, and objectively measurable  
23 effectiveness in increasing student achievement.
- 24 (2) The professional development support offered by the North Carolina  
25 Department of Public Instruction.
- 26 (3) The use of professional development funds allocated to local school  
27 administrative units and individual schools.
- 28 (4) National research regarding effective methods for delivering  
29 professional development that is shown to improve student  
30 achievement.

31 The consultant shall report these findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight  
32 Committee and also shall make recommendations regarding how existing State funds  
33 should be utilized to provide effective and efficient professional development for public  
34 school professionals.

35 **SECTION 3.(b)** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall  
36 review the consultant's findings and recommendations and shall submit to the 2002  
37 Regular Session of the 2001 General Assembly recommendations to streamline,  
38 reorganize, and improve the delivery of professional development for public school  
39 professionals. The recommendations may address revisions to program governance and  
40 mission, reallocation of funds, methods of program delivery, and methods to institute  
41 ongoing program evaluation.

1           **SECTION 3.(c)** The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee shall  
2 review the reports that are required to be made to the committee. The purpose of the  
3 review is to determine which reports must include information that is research-based,  
4 proven in practice, and designed for data-driven research. The Committee may make  
5 recommendations for changes in these reports based upon the Committee's findings."

6           **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law. Section 3(a) of this  
7 act shall be implemented with funds appropriated to the Legislative Services  
8 Commission and shall not require an additional appropriation from the General Fund.