

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015

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SENATE BILL 400  
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/28/15

Short Title: School Access for Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 25, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO GIVE PRIORITY ACCESS TO CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK  
3 WITH STUDENTS SUCH AS THE BOY SCOUTS AND GIRL SCOUTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-206 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 115C-206. State Board of Education; duties; responsibilities.**

7 The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prepare and present to the State Board of  
8 Education recommendations for general guidelines for encouraging increased community  
9 involvement in the public schools and use of public school facilities. These recommendations  
10 shall include, but shall not be limited to provisions for:

- 11 (1) The use of public school facilities by governmental, charitable or civic  
12 organizations for activities within the community.
- 13 (2) The utilization of the talents and abilities of volunteers within the  
14 community for the enhancement of public school programs including  
15 tutoring, counseling and cultural programs and projects.
- 16 (3) Increased communications between the staff and faculty of the public  
17 schools, other community institutions and agencies, and citizens in the  
18 community.
- 19 (4) Local boards of education are to be directed to give priority in the use of  
20 school facilities to any youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States  
21 Code as a patriotic society, such as the Boy Scouts of America, and its  
22 affiliated North Carolina groups and councils, and the Girl Scouts of the  
23 United States of America, and its affiliated North Carolina groups and  
24 councils, in order to encourage schools to facilitate access for students to  
25 participate in activities provided by these groups at times other than  
26 instructional time during the school day for the purposes of encouraging  
27 civic education.

28 Based on the recommendations of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board  
29 of Education shall adopt appropriate policies and guidelines for encouraging increased  
30 community involvement in the public schools and use of the public school facilities."

31 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-207 reads as rewritten:

32 "**§ 115C-207. Authority and responsibility of local boards of education.**

33 Every local board of education that uses State funds to implement programs under this  
34 Article shall:



- 1 (1) Develop programs and plans for increased community involvement in the  
2 public schools based upon policies and guidelines adopted by the State  
3 Board of Education.
- 4 (1a) Develop policies and programs designed to encourage the use of  
5 community-based academic booster organizations, which may be known as  
6 Community Achievement Network – Developing Our Educational  
7 Resources (CAN DOER) organizations, to provide tutoring and other  
8 appropriate services to encourage and support student academic  
9 achievement.
- 10 (1b) Develop policies and/or procedures for approving the use of volunteer  
11 organizations and for approving the use of individual volunteers.
- 12 (1c) Develop policies and/or procedures designed to make information available  
13 to parents and students about what tutoring and other academic support  
14 services are available to students in the community or through school  
15 volunteers or other community organizations.
- 16 (2) Develop programs and plans for increased community use of public school  
17 facilities based upon policies and guidelines adopted by the State Board of  
18 Education
- 19 (3) Establish rules governing the implementation of such programs and plans in  
20 its public schools and submit these rules along with adopted programs and  
21 plans to the State Board of Education for approval by the State Board of  
22 Education.
- 23 (4) Give priority in the use of school facilities to any youth group listed in Title  
24 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society, such as the Boy Scouts of  
25 America, and its affiliated North Carolina groups and councils, and the Girl  
26 Scouts of the United States of America, and its affiliated North Carolina  
27 groups and councils, in order to encourage schools to facilitate access for  
28 students to participate in activities provided by these groups at times other  
29 than instructional time during the school day for the purposes of encouraging  
30 civic education. If the local board of education denies priority access to a  
31 patriotic society listed in Title 36 of the United States Code, the local board  
32 shall provide reasons for the denial in writing to the requesting entity.

33 Programs and plans developed by a local board of education may provide for the  
34 establishment of one or more community schools advisory councils for the public schools  
35 under the board's jurisdiction and for the employment of one or more community schools  
36 coordinators. The local board of education shall establish the terms and conditions of  
37 employment for the community schools coordinators.

38 Every local board of education using State funds to implement a community schools  
39 program under this Article may enter into agreements with other local boards of education,  
40 agencies and institutions for the joint development of plans and programs and the joint  
41 expenditure of these State funds."

42 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 115C-218.75 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

43 "(d) Access for Youth Groups. – Charter schools are encouraged to facilitate access for  
44 students to participate in activities provided by any youth group listed in Title 36 of the United  
45 States Code as a patriotic society, such as the Boy Scouts of America, and its affiliated North  
46 Carolina groups and councils, and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and its  
47 affiliated North Carolina groups and councils. Student participation in any activities offered by  
48 these organizations shall not interfere with instructional time during the school day for the  
49 purposes of encouraging civic education."

50 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 115C-238.66 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

1           "(13) Access for youth groups. – Regional schools are encouraged to facilitate  
2           access for students to participate in activities provided by any youth group  
3           listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society, such as the  
4           Boy Scouts of America, and its affiliated North Carolina groups and  
5           councils, and the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and its  
6           affiliated North Carolina groups and councils. Student participation in any  
7           activities offered by these organizations shall not interfere with instructional  
8           time during the school day for the purposes of encouraging civic education."

9           **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.