

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017**

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**SENATE BILL 517
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/11/17**

Short Title: North Carolina New Teacher Support Act.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 30, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO SUPPORT NEW TEACHERS IN NORTH CAROLINA AND TO
3 APPROPRIATE FUNDS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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6 **PART I. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN GRADUATES OF AN APPROVED**
7 **NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** For purposes of this subsection, a "highly qualified graduate" is an
9 individual entering the teaching profession who has graduated from an approved educator
10 preparation program located in North Carolina (i) with a grade point average of 3.75 or higher
11 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, and (ii) with a score of 48 on the edTPA assessment or an
12 equivalent score on the nationally normed and valid pedagogy assessment used to determine
13 clinical practice performance. Notwithstanding the State standard salary schedule for teachers
14 in the Current Operations and Capital Improvements Act, a highly qualified graduate shall be
15 paid pursuant to the "A" Teachers salary schedule at the highest level for which that person
16 qualifies, as follows:

- 17 (1) A highly qualified graduate who is employed in a school identified as
18 low-performing by the State Board of Education pursuant to
19 G.S. 115C-105.37 on the date that person accepts initial employment shall
20 be paid as though that person has three years of experience on the "A"
21 Teachers salary schedule during that person's first four years of employment
22 as a teacher, without a break in service, as long as that person remains
23 teaching (i) at the same school or (ii) at another school or local school
24 administrative unit identified as low-performing on the date that person
25 accepts subsequent employment with the other school or local school
26 administrative unit.
- 27 (2) A highly qualified graduate licensed and employed to teach in the areas of
28 special education, science, technology, engineering, or mathematics shall be
29 paid as though that person has two years of experience on the "A" Teachers
30 salary schedule during that person's first three years of employment as a
31 teacher, without a break in service, as long as that person continues teaching
32 in one of those areas.
- 33 (3) A highly qualified graduate licensed and employed to teach by a local board
34 of education shall be paid as though that person has one year of experience
35 on the "A" Teachers salary schedule during that person's first two years of
36 employment as a teacher without a break in service.



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1 **SECTION 1.(b)** This section becomes effective only if funds are appropriated in
2 the 2017 Regular Session of the 2017 General Assembly to implement the provisions of this act
3 and would apply beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.
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5 **PART II. FUND THE NORTH CAROLINA NEW TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM**

6 **SECTION 2.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
7 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in
8 recurring funds for the 2017-2018 school year to support and expand the North Carolina New
9 Teacher Support Program. In addition to the current sites for this program at East Carolina
10 University, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the
11 University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the University of North Carolina Center for School
12 Leadership Development, and Western Carolina University, two new anchor sites are
13 established at Appalachian State University and the University of North Carolina at
14 Wilmington.

15 **SECTION 2.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2017, and applies
16 beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.
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18 **PART III. REIMBURSE INITIAL TEACHER LICENSURE FEE FOR CERTAIN**
19 **GRADUATES OF AN APPROVED NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATOR**
20 **PREPARATION PROGRAM**

21 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-296 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

22 "(a4) Notwithstanding subsection (a2) of this section, the State Board of Education shall
23 reimburse the initial teacher licensure application fee for the first time an applicant submits an
24 application for teacher licensure, if the applicant meets all of the following requirements:

25 (1) The applicant is a graduate of an approved educator preparation program
26 located in North Carolina.

27 (2) The applicant has successfully earned an initial teaching license in North
28 Carolina.

29 The State Board shall issue reimbursement to the applicant within 30 days of the date the
30 applicant successfully earns an initial teaching license in North Carolina."

31 **SECTION 3.(b)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
32 Public Instruction the sum of two hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$245,000) in recurring
33 funds for the 2017-2018 school year to reimburse the initial teacher licensure application fee
34 for qualifying applicants pursuant to this section.

35 **SECTION 3.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2017, and applies to
36 applications for licensure received on or after that date.
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38 **PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

39 **SECTION 4.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
40 law.