

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 866

Short Title: Expand NC Promise. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Hurtado, Graham, and Hawkins (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

May 5, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE RESIDENT RATE OF TUITION FOR THE NC PROMISE
3 TUITION PLAN TO INCLUDE CERTAIN DACA RECIPIENTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 116-143.11 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 116-143.11. NC Promise Tuition Plan; State "buy down" of certain financial obligations;
7 annual report.

8 (a) The NC Promise Tuition Plan shall be established and implemented as provided by
9 this section. Notwithstanding ~~G.S. 116-143~~ G.S. 116-143, G.S. 116-143.1, and G.S. 116-11(7),
10 the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall set the rate of undergraduate
11 tuition for Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and
12 Western Carolina University as follows: beginning University, beginning with the 2018-2021 fall
13 academic semester, according to the following:

14 (1) ~~the~~ The rate of tuition for students deemed to be North Carolina residents for
15 purposes of tuition and persons who meet all of the following qualifications
16 shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per academic semester-semester:

17 a. The person received a high school diploma from a secondary school
18 or high school within North Carolina or received a high school
19 equivalency diploma within North Carolina.

20 b. The person attended North Carolina schools for a minimum of two
21 consecutive years immediately prior to high school graduation.

22 c. If the person is a beneficiary of the federal Deferred Action for
23 Childhood Arrivals (DACA) initiative, the person shall provide
24 documentation to the constituent institution to which the person is
25 enrolled demonstrating that the person is a DACA beneficiary.

26 d. The person satisfies the admission standards for the constituent
27 institution to which the person applied and has secured admission and
28 enrolled as a student at the constituent institution.

29 (2) ~~and the~~ The rate of tuition for nonresident students shall be two thousand five
30 hundred dollars (\$2,500) per academic semester.

31 (a1) Any information obtained as part of the process of applying for the established tuition
32 rate pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall be confidential and is not a
33 public record.

34 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State shall "buy down" the amount
35 of any financial obligation resulting from the established tuition rate that may be incurred by



1 Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Western
2 Carolina University.

3 (c) When implementing the provisions of this section, the Board of Governors shall give
4 due consideration to maintaining the unique historical character of each institution, including
5 service to students who are first generation, college-going, economically disadvantaged, or
6 minority.

7 (d) By October 1, ~~2018, 2022~~, and by October 1 of each year thereafter, the Board of
8 Governors and the chancellors of Elizabeth City State University, the University of North
9 Carolina at Pembroke, and Western Carolina University, respectively, shall submit a report to
10 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the House Appropriations Committee on
11 Education, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education, and the Fiscal
12 Research Division on the amount of any financial obligation resulting from the established tuition
13 rate incurred at each constituent institution and at least the following information for the fiscal
14 year:

15 (1) The amount required to offset the forgone tuition receipts at each of the three
16 constituent institutions as a result of the tuition rate established by this section
17 and how those funds were allocated to each constituent institution.

18 (2) The number of enrolled ~~resident~~ students under subdivision (1) of subsection
19 (a) of this section at each constituent institution.

20 (3) The number of enrolled nonresident students at each constituent institution."

21 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
22 the 2021-2022 academic year.