

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1991

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HOUSE BILL 968

Short Title: School Admin. Training/Cert.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Diamont, Rogers; Bowman and Justus.

Referred to: Education.

April 19, 1991

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND TO REQUIRE TRAINING OF SCHOOL
BOARD MEMBERS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-284 reads as rewritten:

"§ 115C-284. **Method of selection and requirements.**

(a) Principals and supervisors shall be elected by the local boards of education upon the recommendation of the superintendent, in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 115C-276(j).

(b) In the city administrative units, principals shall be elected by the board of education of such administrative unit upon the recommendation of the superintendent of city schools.

(c) The State Board of Education shall have entire control of certifying all applicants for supervisory and professional positions in all public elementary and high schools of North Carolina; and it shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the renewal and extension of all certificates, and shall determine and fix the salary for each grade and type of certificate which it authorizes. Provided, that the State Board of Education shall require each applicant for an initial certificate or graduate certificate to demonstrate his academic and professional preparation by achieving a prescribed minimum score at least equivalent to that required by the Board on November 30, 1972, on a standard examination appropriate and adequate for that purpose: Provided, further, that in the event the Board shall specify the National Teachers Examination for this purpose, the required minimum score shall not be lower than that which the Board

1 required on November 30, ~~1972~~–1971: Provided, further, that the Board shall not issue
2 provisional certificates for principals and assistant principals.

3 (c1) It is the policy of the State of North Carolina to maintain the highest quality
4 principal and assistant principal education programs in order to enhance the competence
5 of professional personnel certified in North Carolina. To ensure that principal and
6 assistant principal preparation programs are upgraded to reflect a more rigorous course
7 of study, the State Board of Education shall submit to the General Assembly not later
8 than March 1, 1992, a plan to promote this policy. In developing this plan, the State
9 Board shall consider (i) requiring these programs to include additional preparation for
10 site-based decision making and for the additional autonomy being granted to local
11 schools units, (ii) enhancing program entrance requirements to include assessment of an
12 applicant's ability to complete the program and to perform as a principal, and (iii)
13 enhancing the overall content of the programs.

14 The State Board of Education, as lead agency in coordination and cooperation with
15 the University Board of Governors and such other public and private agencies as are
16 necessary, shall refine the several certification requirements, standards for approval of
17 institutions of principal and assistant principal education, standards for institution-based
18 innovative and experimental programs, and standards for improved efficiencies in the
19 administration of the approved programs.

20 (d) Repealed by Session Laws 1989, c. 385, s. 1.

21 (d1) It is the policy of the State of North Carolina that, subsequent to the adoption
22 of a system of classroom teacher differentiation and prerequisites to candidacy for
23 principal, a classroom teacher must have attained at least the second level of
24 differentiation, have at least four years of classroom teaching experience, and possess,
25 at least, a Masters Degree in Education Administration. This subsection shall not apply
26 to educational personnel certified as of July 1, 1984.

27 (e) It shall be unlawful for any board of education to employ or keep in service
28 any principal or supervisor who neither holds nor is qualified to hold a certificate in
29 compliance with the provision of the law or in accordance with the regulations of the
30 State Board of Education.

31 (f) The allotment of classified principals shall be one principal for each duly
32 constituted school with seven or more state-allotted teachers and shall be included in the
33 calculation of the allotment of general teachers set out in G.S. 115C-301(b)(i).

34 (g) Local boards of education shall have authority to employ supervisors in
35 addition to those that may be furnished by the State when, in the discretion of the board
36 of education, the schools of the local school administrative unit can thereby be more
37 efficiently and more economically operated and when funds for the same are provided
38 in the current expense fund budget. The duties of such supervisors shall be assigned by
39 the superintendent with the approval of the board of education.

40 (h) All principals and supervisors employed in the public schools of the State or
41 in schools receiving public funds, shall be required either to hold or be qualified to hold
42 a certificate in compliance with the provision of the law or in accordance with the
43 regulations of the State Board of Education: ~~Provided, that nothing herein shall prevent the~~

1 employment of temporary personnel under such rules as the State Board of Education may
2 prescribe. Education."

3 Sec. 2. G.S. 115C-289 reads as rewritten:

4 "**§ 115C-289. Assignment of principal's duties to assistant or acting principal;
5 duties of State-funded assistant principals.**

6 (a) Any duty or responsibility assigned to a principal by statute, State Board of
7 Education regulation, or by the superintendent may, with the approval of the local board
8 of education, be assigned by the principal to an assistant principal designated by the
9 local board of education or to an acting principal designated by a principal.

10 (b) ~~Except as provided in subsection (e), all~~ All persons employed as assistant
11 principals in State-allotted positions, or as assistant principals in full-time positions
12 regardless of funding source, in the public schools of the State or in schools receiving
13 public funds, shall, in addition to other applicable requirements, be required either to
14 hold or be qualified to hold a principal's certificate in compliance with applicable law
15 and in accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education. ~~Except as
16 provided in subsection (e), it~~ It shall be unlawful for any board of education to employ or
17 keep in service any assistant principal who neither holds nor is qualified to hold a
18 principal's certificate in compliance with applicable law and in accordance with the
19 regulations of the State Board of Education. ~~Nothing herein shall prevent the employment
20 of temporary personnel under such rules as the State Board of Education may prescribe.~~

21 (c) ~~Subsection (b) shall not apply to any person who was employed as an
22 assistant principal in either a full- or part-time position during the 1986-87 school term
23 until the first day of the 1990-91 school term. Such persons shall meet all other
24 requirements which are applicable to teachers generally. In addition, the local board of
25 education may in its discretion require that any person employed as an assistant
26 principal make satisfactory progress, as determined by the local board, toward meeting
27 the requirements for certification as a principal.~~

28 (d) Assistant principals paid from State funds shall not have regularly assigned
29 teaching duties."

30 Sec. 3. Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
31 section to read:

32 "**§ 115C-12.1. Training of State Board members.**

33 The State Board of Education shall establish minimum training requirements for
34 members of the State Board of Education. All Board members shall participate in
35 training programs, as required by the State Board."

36 Sec. 4. Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
37 section to read:

38 "**§ 115C-50. Training of board members.**

39 All members of local boards of education shall receive a minimum of 12 clock hours
40 of training annually. The training shall include but not be limited to public school law,
41 public school finance, and duties and responsibilities of local school boards. The
42 training may be provided by the North Carolina School Boards Association, the Institute
43 of Government, or other qualified sources at the choice of the local school board."

1 Sec. 5. Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
2 section to read:

3 **"§ 116-11.2. Duties regarding programs in education administration.**

4 The Board of Governors shall direct the constituent institutions with programs in
5 education administration to revise the programs to reflect any increased standards
6 required for programs approved by the State Board of Education, including new
7 requirements for school-based leadership in the public schools. The Board of
8 Governors shall monitor the programs and devise an assessment plan for all programs
9 leading to certification in education administration."

10 Sec. 6. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
11 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of \$150,000 for the 1991-92
12 fiscal year and the sum of \$570,000 for the 1992-93 fiscal year to expand the Principals
13 Executive Program operated by the Institute of Government. Of these funds, the sum of
14 \$150,000 for the 1991-92 fiscal year and the sum of \$150,000 for the 1992-93 fiscal
15 year shall be used to expand the program at the Chapel Hill site; the sum of \$420,000
16 for the 1992-93 fiscal year shall be used to provide the program at additional sites
17 throughout the State and to offer the program to assistant principals.

18 Sec. 7. This act becomes effective July 1, 1991.