

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1993**

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**SENATE BILL 1188**

Short Title: Local Crime Prevention Grants.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Albertson; Jordan, Parnell, Hunt, Hoyle, Martin of Pitt, Warren, Gulley, Gunter, and Speed.

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Referred to: Appropriations.

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May 19, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL CRIME  
2 PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAMS THAT FOCUS ON TRUANCY AND  
3 TRUANCY-RELATED CRIME.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
7 Justice the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal year  
8 and the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to  
9 provide two-year grants to four local law enforcement agencies to establish local crime  
10 prevention pilot programs in which law enforcement officers actively assist school  
11 officials in the education process by returning truant juveniles who are in public places  
12 without adult supervision or without appropriate permission to be out of school during  
13 school hours to their usual schools. The primary effort of locating truant juveniles shall  
14 be the responsibility of all law enforcement officers on routine regular duty. However,  
15 at least one local law enforcement officer shall be assigned a special duty status to  
16 enforce truancy laws and shall have access to a cellular telephone and possess all of the  
17 school facility telephone numbers in the local community in which the officer is  
18 assigned.

19 Any juvenile who is in a public place during school hours and who is not  
20 accompanied by a responsible adult may be asked by a law enforcement officer why the  
21 juvenile is absent from school. The law enforcement officer shall attempt to verify the  
22 response of the juvenile by contacting the parent or guardian of the juvenile or the  
23 appropriate school authority, or by contacting the special duty officer who shall contact

1 either the parent or guardian of the juvenile or the appropriate school authority. No  
2 juvenile approached as a part of this project shall be taken to any type of detention  
3 facility or the local law enforcement department unless some other crime has been  
4 committed.

5         Sec. 2. The Attorney General shall administer the grant program, provide  
6 technical assistance to grant applicants and recipients, select grant recipients, evaluate  
7 the pilot programs and develop guidelines for implementing successful programs. Pilot  
8 programs shall be evenly distributed geographically throughout the State and shall also  
9 be distributed evenly between rural and urban areas of the State.

10         No grant awarded to a local law enforcement agency shall exceed fifty  
11 thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the biennium. A grant awarded to a local law  
12 enforcement agency may be used for salaries, administrative costs, transportation costs,  
13 purchase of vehicles, and other necessary costs of the pilot program.

14         Sec. 3. Grant proposals shall include: (i) an evaluation of truancy offenses  
15 and other crimes related to truancy in the community, and (ii) a plan to use existing  
16 community resources including school policies, school administrative procedures, and  
17 local law enforcement policies and guidelines for enforcing truancy laws. Grant  
18 recipients shall report to the Department of Justice at least annually with regard to the  
19 truancy rate and the rate of juvenile crime in the community in which the grant recipient  
20 is located.

21         Sec. 4. The Department of Justice shall report quarterly to the Joint  
22 Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Fiscal Research Division  
23 with regard to its progress in implementing the pilot projects.

24         Sec. 5. Grant funds shall remain available for expenditure until July 1, 1995.

25         Sec. 6. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.