

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 462\*

Short Title: Principal Fellows Program.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Warren, Lee, Speed, Ward; and Tally.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

March 4, 1993

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT A RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL  
3 LEADERSHIP TASK FORCE AND THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION  
4 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH A PRINCIPAL FELLOWS  
5 PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN THE RECRUITMENT OF  
6 CANDIDATES FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 Section 1. Chapter 116 is amended by adding a new Article to read:

9 **"ARTICLE 5C.**

10 **"NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPAL FELLOWS PROGRAM.**

11 **"§ 116C-74.41. North Carolina Principal Fellows Commission established;**  
12 **membership.**

13 (a) There is established the North Carolina Principal Fellows Commission. The  
14 Commission shall exercise its powers and duties independently of the Board of  
15 Governors of The University of North Carolina. The director of the Principal Fellows  
16 Program shall staff the Commission. Additional staff assistance to the Commission shall  
17 be provided by the staff of the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) as created  
18 in G.S. 116-203.

19 (b) The Commission shall consist of 12 members appointed as follows:

20 (1) One member of the Board of Governors of The University of North  
21 Carolina appointed by the chair of that board.

22 (2) One member of the State Board of Education appointed by the State  
23 Board chair.

- 1           (3)    Two deans of schools of education appointed by the President of The  
2           University of North Carolina.
- 3           (4)    One public school teacher appointed by the General Assembly upon  
4           the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- 5           (5)    One public school principal appointed by the General Assembly upon  
6           the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 7           (6)    A local superintendent chosen by the State Superintendent of Public  
8           Instruction.
- 9           (7)    One member to represent business and industry appointed by the  
10           Governor.
- 11          (8)    One local school board member appointed by the chair of the State  
12           Board of Education.
- 13          (9)    One parent of a public school child appointed by the State  
14           Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 15          (10)   The chairperson of the Board of the State Education Assistance  
16           Authority.
- 17          (11)   The director of the Principal Fellows Program. The director shall chair  
18           the Commission.

19          (b)    Initial terms of those members appointed to fill the teacher, principal, parent,  
20          superintendent, and the local board member seats shall expire July 1, 1995. Initial terms  
21          of those members appointed to fill the Board of Governors, State Board of Education,  
22          deans of schools of education, and the member of business and industry seats shall  
23          expire July 1, 1997. Thereafter, all appointments for these seats shall be for four-year  
24          terms.

25          (c)    Except as otherwise provided, if a vacancy occurs in the membership, the  
26          appointing authority shall appoint another person to serve for the balance of the  
27          unexpired term. In the discretion of the appointing authority, a State Board of Education  
28          member or Board of Governors member may complete a term on the Commission after  
29          the member's appointment from the appointing board has expired.

30          (d)    Commission members shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel  
31          allowances in accordance with G.S. 138-5 or G.S. 138-6, as appropriate.

32          (e)    The Commission shall meet regularly, at times and places deemed necessary  
33          by the chairperson.

34          **"§ 116-74.42. Principal Fellows Program established; administration.**

35          (a)    A Principal Fellows Program shall be administered by the North Carolina  
36          Teaching Fellows Commission. The Principal Fellows Program shall provide up to a  
37          two-year scholarship loan to selected recipients and shall provide extracurricular  
38          enhancement activities for recipients. The North Carolina Principal Fellows  
39          Commission shall determine selection criteria, methods of selection, and shall select  
40          recipients to receive scholarship loans made under the Principal Fellows Program.

41          (b)    The Board of Governors shall appoint a director of the Principal Fellows  
42          Program. The director shall chair and staff the Principal Fellows Commission, and shall  
43          administer the extracurricular enhancement activities of the program. The Board of  
44          Governors shall provide office space and clerical support staff for the program.

1       (c) The Principal Fellows Program shall provide a two-year scholarship loan in  
2 the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) per year, per recipient, to persons  
3 selected to be educational leaders in the public schools of the State by completing a full-  
4 time program in school administration in an approved program. Approved programs are  
5 those chosen by the Commission from among school administrator programs within the  
6 constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. No more than 200  
7 principal fellow awards shall be made in each year. The final number of awards per year  
8 shall be made in accordance with the Board of Governors' findings concerning the  
9 supply and demand of administrators, the State's need for school administrator  
10 candidates and within funds appropriated for the scholarship loans. Effective September  
11 1, 1995, and in accordance with the programs established in accordance with G.S. 116-  
12 74.21, recipients shall be required to complete an approved full-time academic program  
13 during the first year of the loan program and a full-time internship during the second  
14 year of the program. In order to attract fellows as interns, local school administrative  
15 units may use all or part of the funds allotted for an assistant principal salary for each  
16 intern accepted by the local school administrative unit; however, interns shall not serve  
17 as assistant principals.

18       (d) The Commission shall adopt stringent standards, which may include  
19 standardized test scores, undergraduate performance, job experience and performance,  
20 and leadership and management abilities, and other standards deemed appropriate by the  
21 Commission, to ensure that only the best potential students receive loans under the  
22 Principal Fellows Program. The Commission shall consider the qualifications of all  
23 applicants fairly, regardless of gender or race, and shall consider the geographic  
24 diversity of the State. Loans under the Principal Fellows Program shall be awarded only  
25 to applicants who meet the standards set by the Commission, are domiciled in North  
26 Carolina, and who agree to work as school administrators in a North Carolina public  
27 school or at a school operated by the United States government in North Carolina upon  
28 completion of the two-year school administrator program supported by the loan.

29       (e) State employees or employees of local school administrative units chosen as  
30 fellows shall be eligible for coverage under the State Employees Health Plan.

31       (f) The Commission shall develop and administer the Principal Fellows Program  
32 in cooperation with school administrator programs at institutions approved by the  
33 Commission. The Commission shall develop criteria and a process for the approval of  
34 campus program sites. Extracurricular enhancement activities shall be coordinated with  
35 each fellow's campus program and shall focus on the leadership development of  
36 program fellows.

37       (g) The Commission may form regional review committees to assist it in  
38 identifying the best applicants for the program. The Commission and the review  
39 committees shall make an effort to identify and encourage women and minorities and  
40 others who may not otherwise consider a career in school administration to apply for the  
41 Principal Fellows Program.

42       (h) Upon the naming of recipients of loans from the Principal Fellows Program,  
43 the Commission shall inform the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) of its  
44 decisions. The SEAA shall perform all of the administrative functions necessary to

1 implement this Article, which functions shall include: rulemaking, dissemination of  
2 information to the public, distribution and receipt of applications for scholarship loans,  
3 and the functions necessary for the execution, payment, and enforcement of promissory  
4 notes required under this Article.

5 **"§ 116-74.43. Terms of loans; receipt and disbursement of funds.**

6 (a) All scholarship loans shall be evidenced by notes made payable to the State  
7 Education Assistance Authority that bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per  
8 year beginning 90 days after completion of the school administrator program, or 90 days  
9 after termination of the scholarship loan, whichever is earlier. The scholarship loan may  
10 be terminated upon the recipient's withdrawal from school or by the recipient's failure to  
11 meet the standards set by the Commission.

12 (b) The State Education Assistance Authority shall forgive the loan if, within six  
13 years after graduation from a school administrator program, the recipient serves for four  
14 years as a school administrator at a North Carolina public school or at a school operated  
15 by the United States government in North Carolina. The Commission shall also forgive  
16 the loan if it finds that it is impossible for the recipient to work for four years, within 10  
17 years after graduation, at a North Carolina public school or at a school operated by the  
18 United States government in North Carolina, because of the death or permanent  
19 disability of the recipient. If the recipient repays the scholarship loan by cash payments,  
20 all indebtedness shall be repaid within 10 years.

21 (c) All funds appropriated to, or otherwise received by, the Principal Fellows  
22 Program for scholarships, all funds received as repayment of scholarship loans, and all  
23 interest earned on these funds, shall be placed in a revolving fund. This revolving fund  
24 may be used only for scholarship loans granted under the Principal Fellows Program  
25 and administrative costs associated with the program."

26 Sec. 2. The Commission may grant up to 100 scholarship loans during the  
27 1994-95 fiscal year to recipients enrolled in school administrator programs approved by  
28 the Commission and located within the constituent universities of The University of  
29 North Carolina.

30 Sec. 3. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as obligating the  
31 General Assembly to appropriate funds. Sections of this act requiring State funding for  
32 implementation shall not become effective until such funds are appropriated.

33 Sec. 4. Nothing in this act shall be construed as obligating the Board of  
34 Governors to allocate funds for the program established under this act unless additional  
35 appropriations for the program are made by the General Assembly.

36 Sec. 5. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.