

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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HOUSE BILL 1199
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/22/97

Short Title: Monetary Incentive/Acad. Excellence.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 1, 1997

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE MONETARY INCENTIVES FOR ACADEMIC
3 EXCELLENCE.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
6 Article to read:

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8 "ARTICLE 35A.

9 "State Funds to Encourage Academic Excellence.

10 "**§ 115C-496. State funds to pay advancement costs.**

11 Since it is the desire of the State to encourage academic excellence and to encourage
12 high school students to take more demanding classes, the State Board of Education shall
13 pay the cost of the Advanced Placement exam for any student who takes and completes
14 an Advanced Placement class with a passing grade.

15 "**§ 115C-496.1. Funds prorated for part-time students attending high school.**

16 The State Board of Education shall include students who are enrolled in a public high
17 school but attend classes for less than one-half of the instructional day when calculating
18 the average daily membership for a local school administrative unit. The State Board

1 shall use funds available from the Public School Fund to allocate to the local school
2 administrative unit an appropriate pro rata amount for these part time students.

3 **"§ 115C-496.2. State pays tuition for high school student taking college classes.**

4 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a student who is eligible to attend a
5 public high school completes the student's high school course requirements prior to
6 completing 12 years of schooling (not including kindergarten and prekindergarten if
7 applicable) and enrolls in a college level class or classes at an institution of higher
8 education, the State Board of Education shall pay for the student's tuition at the institution
9 of higher education. The amount set aside for payment of tuition shall be the amount that
10 would have been allocated to the local school administrative unit for the student to
11 complete 12 years of schooling (not including kindergarten and prekindergarten if
12 applicable) in the public schools. These funds may be used to pay tuition at any
13 nationally or regionally accredited institution of higher education that the student may
14 choose to attend for up to four years of instruction. Funds set aside but not expended for
15 the payment of tuition shall not revert during the four years of instruction.

16 Should a student not complete all high school graduation requirements but be
17 advanced in certain subjects to the point that university or community college courses
18 would be more beneficial than those available at the student's high school, the normal
19 allotment to the local school administrative unit shall be apportioned based upon the
20 amount of instructional time taken in the local school administrative unit and the local
21 school administrative unit shall receive funds for the portion of the day that the student
22 attends class in the public school. The balance of the funds shall be used to pay tuition at
23 an institution of higher education to the extent that funds are available after payment to
24 the local school administrative unit."

25 Section 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Board of
26 Education the sum of four million six hundred eighty-seven thousand two hundred twelve
27 dollars (\$4,687,212) for the 1997-98 fiscal year and the sum of four million nine hundred
28 seventy-four thousand six hundred forty dollars (\$4,974,640) for the 1998-99 fiscal year
29 to assist with the costs of taking the Advanced Placement tests, including the costs of the
30 exams, materials and supplies for the exam, and the education of teachers who instruct
31 and prepare students for the exam.

32 Section 3. Except as provided otherwise, this act becomes effective July 1,
33 1997. G.S. 115C-496.1 and G.S. 115C-496.2 shall become effective July 1, 1998. The
34 State Board of Education shall develop policies for implementing this act.