

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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HOUSE BILL 2630

Short Title: Report Child Abuse by School Personnel/Funds. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Saunders, Vinson (Primary Sponsors); Faison and Womble.

Referred to: Judiciary I.

May 25, 2006

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TO REPORT SUSPECTED
3 CHILD ABUSE ALLEGEDLY PERPETRATED BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO
4 THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, THE CHILD'S
5 PARENT, AND THE LOCAL DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN
6 ACCORDANCE WITH CHILD ABUSE LAWS AND TO ALLOCATE FUNDS
7 FOR THAT PURPOSE.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-400 reads as rewritten:

10 "**§ 115C-400. School personnel to report child abuse.**

11 (a) Any person who has cause to suspect child abuse or neglect has a duty to
12 report the case of the child to the Director of Social Services of the county, as provided
13 in Article 3 of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes.

14 (b) Any person employed by a local school administrative unit who has cause to
15 suspect child abuse allegedly perpetrated by school personnel has a duty to report the
16 case of the child to the appropriate law enforcement agency, the child's parent, and the
17 local director of social services in accordance with Article 3 of Chapter 7B of the
18 General Statutes. Additionally, the report shall be made within 24 hours of learning of
19 the suspected child abuse, and the appropriate law enforcement agency shall initiate a
20 criminal investigation within 48 hours. For purposes of this subsection, the phrase
21 'abused juvenile' as defined in G.S. 7B-101(1), shall include any school personnel
22 suspected of child abuse.'

23 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Public Instruction and the Department of
24 Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, shall allocate, from funds
25 available, sufficient funds for local school districts to develop procedures and for local
26 law enforcement agencies to conduct investigations as required under Section 1 of this
27 act.

28 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2006.