

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

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**SENATE BILL 296
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 3/31/11**

Short Title: Dropout Recovery Programs.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 10, 2011

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT COURSES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE GATEWAY TO
3 COLLEGE PROGRAM TO GENERATE BUDGET FTE AND TO DEVELOP AN
4 APPROVAL PROCESS FOR DROPOUT RECOVERY PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS
5 BETWEEN LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND LOCAL SCHOOL
6 ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115D-20(4) reads as rewritten:

9 "(4) To apply the standards and requirements for admission and graduation of
10 students and other standards established by the State Board of Community
11 Colleges. Provided, notwithstanding any law or administrative rule to the
12 contrary, local administrative boards and local school boards may establish
13 cooperative programs in the areas they serve to provide for college courses
14 to be offered to qualified high school students with college credits to be
15 awarded to those high school students upon the successful completion of the
16 courses. Provided, further, that during the summer quarter, persons less than
17 16 years old may be permitted to take noncredit courses on a self-supporting
18 basis, subject to rules of the State Board of Community Colleges. Provided,
19 further, that high school students may be permitted to take noncredit courses
20 in safe driving on a self-supporting basis during the academic year or the
21 summer. Provided, further, that local administrative boards and local school
22 boards may establish dropout recovery programs in the areas they serve,
23 subject to the approval of the State Board of Community Colleges."

24 **SECTION 2.** Section 7.24(h) of S.L. 2010-13 reads as rewritten:

25 "**SECTION 7.24.(h)** Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, courses provided in (i)
26 general education, except for mathematics, science, and technology, (ii) physical education, and
27 (iii) college success skills courses offered to high school students shall no longer generate State
28 funding through budget FTE. If an institute of higher education offers these courses to high
29 school students, the colleges may charge an amount sufficient to cover the costs of the courses.

30 This subsection does not apply to courses provided to students of Early and Middle
31 College High Schools. Schools or students enrolled in the Gateway to College programs
32 operating at Durham Technical Community College or the College of the Albemarle."

33 **SECTION 3.** The State Board of Community Colleges, in conjunction with the
34 State Board of Education, shall develop a process for approval of high school dropout recovery
35 program partnerships between local community colleges and local school administrative units.
36 The State Board of Community Colleges and the State Board of Education may examine the
37 Gateway to College programs at Durham Technical Community College and College of the



1 Albemarle for examples of best practices in establishing high school dropout recovery program
2 partnerships. The State Board of Community Colleges and the State Board of Education shall
3 report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than March 1, 2012, on
4 any recommended legislation needed for approval of such programs.

5 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2011.