

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1961 SESSION

CHAPTER 968
SENATE BILL 300

1 AN ACT TO INCORPORATE AND ESTABLISH THE EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA
2 SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF.

3
4 WHEREAS, it has been established and recognized by educators specializing in the
5 education of the deaf throughout the United States that an enrollment of five hundred (500)
6 students in a school is the maximum for effective work as well as skillful and competent
7 education in this field; and

8 WHEREAS, California, Pennsylvania and other states have recognized this standard
9 or maximum enrollment by establishing new schools for the deaf when the level of enrollment
10 of five hundred (500) persons or students was reached in existing schools; and

11 WHEREAS, the current proposed appropriations will provide for an increase to five
12 hundred (500) students at the North Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton during the
13 1961-1963 biennium and the Director of that school and the Board of Trustees at that school
14 agree on the necessity for a new school for the deaf in North Carolina, preferably in Eastern
15 North Carolina, and the necessity for its activation sometime in the biennium 1963-1965; and

16 WHEREAS, O.H. Pons, President of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina
17 School for the Deaf at Morganton, has been authorized by his Board of Directors to make a
18 statement relating to this proposed school for the deaf which statement is as follows:

19 "It is the opinion of the Board of Directors and of the Administration that the School for the
20 Deaf in Morganton has reached a maximum recommended size for ideal educational facilities
21 for the deaf. The Board and the Administration favors new facilities in another location, rather
22 than expanding at Morganton for future requirements due to ever increasing enrollment."; and

23 WHEREAS, in order to provide the physical plant for an initial enrollment of one
24 hundred (100) deaf students from preschool age through Grade "8" and the expansion to a
25 student body of two hundred and fifty (250) with education through high school, when
26 recommended by the Board of Directors two million fifty-seven thousand dollars
27 (\$2,057,000.00) would be required for capital improvements and renovations to the aforesaid
28 buildings: Now, therefore,

29
30 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

31
32 **Section 1.** That Chapter 116 of the General Statutes, as amended, is hereby further
33 amended by adding thereto a new Article which shall be designated as Article 20 and shall read
34 as follows:

35 "Article 20

36 "Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf

37 "**Sec. 116-186. Incorporation and location.** There is hereby established and there shall be
38 maintained a school for the deaf of this State which shall be a corporation under the corporate
39 name of the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf.

40 "As soon as practicable after its appointment as hereinafter provided for the North Carolina
41 Directors of Schools for the Deaf shall meet with the Governor and consider sites, including the
42 proposed site at Wilson, North Carolina, together with any other sites in Eastern North Carolina
43 which may be offered as a location for the school. From all sites offered, the Governor and the

1 North Carolina Directors of Schools for the Deaf shall designate that site considered most
2 suitable as the location for the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, and such school
3 shall thereafter be known as the "North Carolina School for the Deaf at
4 _____.

5 **"Sec. 116-187. Directors; terms; vacancies.** The North Carolina School for the Deaf at
6 Morganton and the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf shall be under the control and
7 management of a board of directors consisting of eleven (11) members known as North
8 Carolina Directors of Schools for the Deaf. The said board of directors, to be known as North
9 Carolina Directors of Schools for the Deaf, shall be constituted and composed as follows: The
10 Governor of North Carolina, within thirty days after the effective date of this Act, shall appoint
11 eleven (11) members or directors for terms of four (4) years each from and after the date of
12 their appointment, and these eleven (11) members shall constitute the North Carolina Directors
13 of Schools for the Deaf. All directors appointed as herein provided shall hold office until their
14 successors are appointed and qualified. The Governor of North Carolina shall fill all vacancies
15 in office of said directors arising because of death, resignation or any reason whatsoever. As
16 soon as the Governor of North Carolina has appointed all directors, as herein provided, to serve
17 as North Carolina Directors of Schools for the Deaf, the Board of Directors of the North
18 Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton shall cease to exist and the general control,
19 administration and supervision of the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf and the North
20 Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton shall be under the authority of the North Carolina
21 Directors of Schools for the Deaf as herein constituted. The Governor shall transmit to the
22 General Assembly at its next regular Session the names of his appointees for confirmation but
23 the appointees of the Governor shall have the right to serve and act as said directors until their
24 names are presented to the General Assembly for confirmation. The Governor shall have the
25 power to remove any member of the board of directors whenever in his opinion it is to the best
26 interest of the State to remove such person, and the Governor shall not be required to give any
27 reason for such removal.

28 **"Sec. 116-188. Organization of board; other officials; salaries.** The board of directors shall
29 organize by appointing one of its number president and three an executive committee, who
30 shall hold office for two years; they shall elect a superintendent for each school whose terms of
31 office shall be three years, and such other officers, teachers, and agents as shall be deemed
32 necessary, and shall fix the compensation of same.

33 **"Sec. 116-189. Superintendent.** The superintendents shall be teachers of knowledge, skill, and
34 ability in their profession and experience in the management and instruction of the deaf. They
35 shall possess good executive ability and shall be the chief executive officers of the institutions.
36 They shall devote their whole time to the supervision of the institution, and shall see that the
37 pupils are properly instructed in the branches of learning and industrial pursuits as provided for
38 in this Article, and under the supervision of the board. The board shall elect all teachers and
39 subordinate officers by and with the consent and recommendation of the superintendents.

40 **"Sec. 116-190. Pupils admitted; education.** The board of directors shall, according to such
41 reasonable regulations as it may prescribe, on application, receive into the school for the
42 purposes of education all white deaf children resident of the State not of confirmed immoral
43 character, nor imbecile or unsound in mind or incapacitated by physical infirmity for useful
44 instruction, who are between the ages of six and twenty-one years: Provided, that the board of
45 directors may admit students under the age of six years when, in its judgment, such admission
46 will be for the best interest of the applicant and the facilities of the school permit such
47 admission. Only those who are bona fide citizens and/or residents of North Carolina shall be
48 eligible to and entitled to receive free tuition and maintenance. The board of directors may fix
49 charges and prescribe rules whereby nonresident deaf children may be admitted, but in no event
50 shall the admission of nonresidents in any way prevent the attendance of any eligible deaf
51 child, resident of North Carolina. The board shall provide for the instruction of all pupils in the

1 branches of study now prescribed by law for the public schools of the State and in such other
2 branches as may be of special benefit to the deaf. As soon as practicable, the boys shall be
3 instructed and trained in such mechanical pursuits as may be suited to them, and in practical
4 agriculture and subjects relating thereto; and the girls shall be instructed in sewing,
5 housekeeping, and such arts and industrial branches as may be useful to them in making
6 themselves self-supporting."

7 **Sec. 2.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are
8 hereby repealed.

9 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

10 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 17th day of June,
11 1961.