S.L. 2018-5 AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Education Budget Highlights

The Conference Report provides net appropriations of $13.8 billion for the State’s three Education systems including Public Schools, Community Colleges and the University of North Carolina System, a 5.3% increase or $697 million above the amount enacted for FY 2017-18. Highlights of the Conference Committee and other legislative actions in Education follow below:

Adjustments to Appropriations: Public Schools

- (Page B 6, Item 11; Page B 7, Item 20) Funds K-12 enrollment growth needs by providing $29.7 million in FY 2018-19 and giving DPI authority to utilize excess funds in other fund codes.
- (Page B 7, Item 21) Provides $28 million in additional funding for school safety initiatives, including four new grant programs (students in crisis, school safety training, safety equipment, and youth mental health personnel).
- (Page B 8, Item 22) Expands the Advanced Placement partnership to provide additional support to schools offering advanced classes.
- (Page B 8, Item 24) Expands the Sixth and Seventh Grade Career and Technical Education Grant Program to provide more CTE courses in earlier grades.
- (Page B 10, Item 31) Doubles the number of LEAs that can participate in the Teacher Assistant Tuition Reimbursement Program to help TAs receive training to become teachers.
- (Page B 10, Item 35) Creates the Schools That Lead pilot program to offer professional development to schools regarding the use of improvement science in improving student outcomes.
- (Page B 7, Item 15) Maintains the per-pupil allocation for textbooks identical to the amount provided in FY 2017-18.
- (Page B 8, Item 26) Provides $140K to improve licensure processes within DPI.

Special Provisions: Public Schools

- (Sec. 7.26, Page 33) Requires that all governing bodies of a public secondary schools operate an anonymous safety tip line.
- (Sec. 7.18, Page 26) Allows children within military families to enroll in traditional public and charter schools prior to establishing residency in North Carolina.
- (Sec. 7.9, Page 22) Extends the Advanced Teaching Roles pilot for five additional years.
- (Sec. 7.13, Page 24) Extends the Virtual Charter Schools pilot for four additional years.
- (Sec. 7.15, Page 25) Approves five new Cooperative Innovative High Schools to begin operation in FY 2018-19 without additional State funds.
Adjustments to Appropriations: Community Colleges

- (Page B 20, Item 69) Fully funds Community College enrollment growth by providing $2.7 million in FY 2018-19, which includes an adjustment to offset the effect of Hurricane Matthew.
- (Page B 22, Item 78) Increases funding for continuing education and workforce development leading to industry credentials by $14.7 million ($6.4 million recurring and $8.3 million nonrecurring).

Special Provisions: Community Colleges

- (Sec. 9.4, Page 50) Extends the statewide implementation date for the Career and College Ready Graduate Program by two years to FY 2020-21.
- (Sec. 9.10, Page 53) Instructs the State Board of Community Colleges to conduct a study of the cost of earning regular budget full-time equivalents (FTE) for community college courses offered in local jails.

Adjustments to Appropriations: UNC

- (Page B 31, Item 99) Provides $11 million additional funds for full implementation of NC Promise
- (Page B 31, Item 100) Provides $1.1 million in supplemental funding for three Lab Schools scheduled to open in FY 2018-19 (operated by UNC-W, UNC-G, and ASU).
- (Page B 34, Item 104) Increases by $3 million the Special Education Scholarship Grant program.
- (Page B 35, Item 107) Restores $500K funding cut to UNC Law School.
- (Page B 37, Item 111) Provides $4.8 million in additional funds to the Western School of Medicine –Asheville.
- (Page B 39, Item 115) Provides $2 million for the NCSU Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals effort to serve as matching funds for a federal grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Special Provisions: UNC

- (Sec. 10A.5, Page 70) Provides funding for a one-year tuition grant program for students graduating from the North Carolina School of Science and Math at the end of 2018-2019 school year.
- (Sec. 10A.6, Page 71) Provides access to private institution Need-Based Scholarships to veterans.