

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 340
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/8/93

Short Title: GPAC/Univ. of N.C.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 25, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT
PERFORMANCE AUDIT COMMITTEE REGARDING THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

—UNC BD. OF GOV. REVIEW/PLAN.

Section 1. (a) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall review all academic degree programs and research and public service activities to identify those programs and activities that are of low productivity or low priority, or are unnecessarily redundant. The Board shall develop specific criteria for these reviews, and shall develop a process to review academic degree program productivity biennially. The Board's review shall have as its top priority the potential elimination of nonproductive or unnecessarily duplicative graduate, professional, or doctoral programs and the identification of resources to strengthen undergraduate education.

The review of academic degree programs shall be completed by December 31, 1995. The Board shall report to the General Assembly and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 1, 1996, on its findings. The review of research and public service activities shall be completed by December 1, 1996. The Board shall report the results of this review to the General Assembly and to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 1, 1997. The reports shall include plans for program eliminations or reductions and for proposed reallocations of any savings.

(b) G.S. 116-11(3) reads as rewritten:

1 "(3) The Board shall determine the functions, educational activities and
2 academic programs of the constituent institutions. The Board shall also
3 determine the types of degrees to be awarded. The powers herein given
4 to the Board shall not be restricted by any provision of law assigning
5 specific functions or responsibilities to designated institutions, the
6 powers herein given superseding any such provisions of law. The
7 Board, after adequate notice and after affording the institutional board
8 of trustees an opportunity to be heard, shall have authority to withdraw
9 approval of any existing program if it appears that the program is
10 unproductive, excessively costly or unnecessarily duplicative. The
11 Board shall review the productivity of academic degree programs
12 every two years, using criteria specifically developed to determine
13 program productivity."

14 (c) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall develop a
15 plan for the continued and expanded availability of higher education for all citizens,
16 focusing on the availability of opportunities in underserved areas by means other than
17 the establishment of additional degree programs. The expanded use of video and audio
18 distance learning technology, the expanded use of graduate centers to avoid program
19 duplication, the potential for expanded funding of extension instruction, and increased
20 cooperative programs with the North Carolina Community College System and the
21 public school system should all be considered in developing the plan. The Board shall
22 present to the General Assembly by February 1994 a schedule for development and
23 submission of this plan.

24 (d) This section becomes effective July 1, 1993.

25 —UNC TUITION ISSUES.

26 Sec. 2. (a) The General Assembly finds that effective implementation of the
27 constitutional mandate to provide higher education opportunities to the citizens of North
28 Carolina, free of expense "as far as practicable", requires that all mandatory charges
29 exacted by The University of North Carolina, including both tuition and required fees,
30 be governed by the principle of lowest practicable expense to students and their
31 families, in order to minimize financial barriers to access.

32 (b) The General Assembly finds that the practicable extent of mandatory
33 expenses to be borne by students, consistent with the constitutional mandate, is properly
34 determined by each General Assembly with due consideration for all currently relevant
35 fiscal circumstances, rather than by a fixed formula that precludes acknowledgment of
36 economic variables.

37 (c) This section becomes effective July 1, 1993.