

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 1150

Short Title: UNC/Undergrad. Qual. Study.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hoyle; and Perdue.

Referred to: Rules and Operation of the Senate.

May 12, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON THE QUALITY
OF UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH
CAROLINA, AND TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. There is established the Legislative Commission on The Quality of Undergraduate Education in The University of North Carolina (the "Study Commission"). The Study Commission shall include the following 18 members:

- (1) Three Senators, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (2) Three Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3) Two chancellors, appointed by the President of The University of North Carolina.
- (4) Two members of the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, appointed by the chair of that Board.
- (5) The President of The University of North Carolina or his designee.
- (6) Two professors recognized for teaching excellence, one of whom shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) The student ex officio member of the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina.
- (8) Four representatives of business and industry, two of whom shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and two of

1 whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives.

3 All appointments shall be made within 30 days following adjournment of the
4 1993 Regular Session of the 1993 General Assembly. Any vacancy shall be filled by
5 the original appointing authority.

6 Sec. 2. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one Senator
7 as cochair and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one
8 Representative as cochair. The cochairs shall jointly call the first meeting and shall
9 preside at alternate meetings.

10 Sec. 3. The purpose of the study is to investigate the following:

- 11 (1) Institutional and professorial rewards and incentives for quality
12 undergraduate teaching.
- 13 (2) The role of teaching as scholarship in the university rewards system,
14 including methods to reward excellence in the classroom and reduce
15 pressures that limit faculty focus on teaching.
- 16 (3) Methods to assess and evaluate faculty teaching including self-
17 assessment, peer assessment, and student assessment.
- 18 (4) Current activities dedicated to faculty professional development in the
19 area of teaching, including fiscal support to enhance those efforts.
- 20 (5) Institutional missions and institutional planning in order to determine
21 the emphasis placed on undergraduate teaching and learning in each
22 constituent institution of The University of North Carolina.
- 23 (6) Current institutional measures of quality undergraduate education,
24 including reports on remediation, graduation rates, and time-to-
25 graduation; and potential measures of quality undergraduate education,
26 including efforts to simplify reports and make information more
27 accessible to the public and other interested parties.
- 28 (7) Freshman placement issues, including consistent use of the Academic
29 Placement test, student success rates of remediation programs in the
30 community colleges and universities, placement and support for
31 academically underprepared students, and university use of internal
32 placement tests.
- 33 (8) Academic support systems for undergraduates.
- 34 (9) The relationship among the constituent institutions of The University
35 of North Carolina, the public schools, and the community colleges in
36 improving undergraduate education.
- 37 (10) Consistency of quality in General College (freshman and sophomore)
38 coursework, including examination of various models and of other
39 states' efforts to establish standards for or measure the impact of
40 General College coursework.
- 41 (11) Student contact with tenured faculty, including analysis of course
42 loads for both faculty and students, the use of teaching assistants, and
43 efforts to improve the quality of the training and evaluation of teaching
44 assistants.

1 (12) Alternative systems to provide methods for the payment of college
2 costs, including prepaid tuition plans, zero-coupon bond programs, and
3 need-based student aid, such as contractual plans (the Taylor Plan),
4 work study, and others.

5 Sec. 4. Members of the Study Commission shall receive subsistence and
6 travel expenses at the rates set forth in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5, and 138-6, as applicable.

7 Sec. 5. The Study Commission cochairs may contract for professional,
8 clerical, or consultant services as provided by G.S. 120-32.02, and may purchase or
9 contract for the materials and services it needs. The Legislative Services Commission,
10 through the Legislative Administrative Officer, shall assign professional staff to assist in
11 the work of the Study Commission. The House of Representatives' and the Senate's
12 Supervisors of Clerks, upon the direction of the Legislative Services Commission, shall
13 assign clerical staff to the Study Commission. The expenses relating to the clerical
14 employees shall be borne by the Study Commission. Facilitation of the work of the
15 Study Commission may be contracted to an individual who has an excellent national
16 reputation in the area of evaluating the quality of undergraduate education in public
17 universities.

18 Sec. 6. The Study Commission may, with the approval of the Legislative
19 Services Commission, meet in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office
20 Building.

21 Sec. 7. The Study Commission shall make an interim report to the Joint
22 Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than April 15, 1994, and shall
23 make a final report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee no later than
24 January 15, 1995, at which time the Study Commission shall terminate.

25 Sec. 8. Upon the request of the Study Commission, all State departments and
26 agencies, all local governments and their subdivisions, and all institutions and
27 departments under the jurisdiction of the Board of Governors of The University of
28 North Carolina shall furnish the Study Commission with any information in their
29 possession or available to them.

30 Sec. 9. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the General
31 Assembly the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the 1993-94 fiscal year and
32 the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the 1994-95 fiscal year to fund the work
33 of the Study Commission.

34 Sec. 10. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.