

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1999**

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**SENATE BILL 1185**

Short Title: Excellent Schools Act Funds.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Perdue; Albertson, Carter, Clodfelter, Cooper, Dannelly, Garrou, Gulley, Hagan, Harris, Hoyle, Jordan, Kerr, Kinnaird, Lucas, Martin of Guilford, Martin of Pitt, Metcalf, Miller, Phillips, Plyler, Rand, Reeves, Robinson, Shaw of Cumberland, Soles, Warren, Weinstein, and Wellons.

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Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget.

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May 9, 2000

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE EXCELLENT SCHOOLS ACT.**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Whereas, North Carolina has always recognized the importance of public education to the civic and economic well-being of the State; and

Whereas, as early as 1776, the North Carolina Constitution directed the General Assembly to establish public schools; and

Whereas, today, the North Carolina Constitution guarantees every child in this State an opportunity to receive a sound basic education in our public schools; and

Whereas, the General Assembly of North Carolina recognizes that it is imperative that the public school system provide our students with the skills and knowledge they need to be successful as citizens and in the workplace; and

Whereas, in recent years, North Carolina has made significant strides in improving public education; and

Whereas, recent initiatives in North Carolina including the Excellent Schools Act, the ABC's of Public Education Program, the Safe Schools Initiatives, Low-Wealth

1 Schools Supplemental Funding, Small Schools Supplemental Funding, and Smart Start  
2 are resulting in significant, measurable improvements in public schools; and

3       Whereas, the National Education Goals Panel, a bipartisan panel of State and  
4 federal leaders, found that North Carolina and Texas lead all states in the nation in gains  
5 in mathematics and reading achievement; and

6       Whereas, SAT scores have increased for 11 years; and

7       Whereas, full implementation of the Excellent Schools Act, which links higher  
8 standards for public school teachers to higher pay, will result in even greater  
9 improvements in public education in the future; Now, therefore,  
10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11       Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to State Aid to Local  
12 School Administrative Units the sum of two hundred forty-eight million eight hundred  
13 thousand dollars (\$248,800,000) for the 2000-2001 fiscal year to implement the  
14 commitment made in the Excellent Schools Act to increase teacher compensation.

15       Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2000.