

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

H

1

HOUSE BILL 938

Short Title: Close Achievement Gap Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Michaux; Earle and Weiss.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 8, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO CONTINUE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE STATE BOARD OF
2 EDUCATION FOR THE WORK OF THE CONSORTIUM OF THE
3 HISTORICALLY MINORITY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE TO
4 DETERMINE THE BEST METHODS FOR CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT
5 GAP AMONG CHILDREN OF VARIOUS DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS WHO
6 ARE PERFORMING BELOW GRADE LEVEL AND TO DISSEMINATE AND
7 REPLICATE THESE METHODS ACROSS THE STATE OF NORTH
8 CAROLINA.
9

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of
12 Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of five hundred thousand
13 dollars (\$500,000) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year and the sum of five hundred thousand
14 dollars (\$500,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to continue to support the Historically
15 Minority College and University initiative established in Section 8.28 of S.L. 2000-67
16 to close the achievement gap.

17 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly shall appropriate from the General
18 Fund to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of five
19 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) each fiscal year through the 2007-2008 fiscal year
20 to continue to support the Historically Minority College and University initiative
21 established in Section 8.28 of S.L. 2000-67 to close the achievement gap.

22 **SECTION 3.** The consortium of the Historically Minority College and
23 University initiative shall continue its work, as provided in Section 8.28(i) of S.L.
24 2000-67, to determine the best practices and methodologies for closing the achievement
25 gap among children of various demographic groups who are performing below grade
26 level. The consortium shall work with rural and low-wealth communities to replicate at
27 least six community-based programs. The State Board of Education and the Research
28 Council of the Education Cabinet shall make an interim report regarding its findings and
29 recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 15

1 of each year and shall make a final report by March 15, 2009, to the Joint Legislative
2 Education Oversight Committee.

3 **SECTION 4.(a)** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board
4 of Governors of The University of North Carolina the sum of one hundred fifty
5 thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year and one hundred fifty
6 thousand dollars (\$150,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year to be allocated to The
7 Historically Minority Colleges and Universities Consortium to study, examine, and
8 profile the history of organized education for American Indians and African Americans
9 in North Carolina as recommended by The North Carolina Commission on Raising
10 Achievement and Closing Gaps Final Report to the State Board of Education. In its
11 study the Consortium shall consider and analyze all of the following:

- 12 (1) The strengths and weaknesses of the school environment on the
13 education of African American and American Indian youth prior to
14 school desegregation in North Carolina and the decades that followed
15 since school integration began from 1974 to the present.
- 16 (2) The best practices and models that impact achievement of minority
17 students including school, home, and community.
- 18 (3) The findings from a study to influence school policy changes at local
19 and State levels to improve the school environment and academic
20 achievement of African American and American Indian youth.
- 21 (4) How to design a training model for community, parents, teachers, and
22 administrators based on best practices found in research.
- 23 (5) How to work most effectively with the State to infuse best practices
24 and key research findings into school curriculum and policy guidelines
25 for all LEAs throughout the State.

26 **SECTION 4.(b)** The State Board of Education and the Research Council of
27 the Education Cabinet shall make an interim report regarding the findings of the study
28 and recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by
29 March 2004, and shall make a final report by July 1, 2005, to the Joint Legislative
30 Education Oversight Committee.

31 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2003.