

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

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SENATE DRS35120-LH-31A (1/26)

Short Title: Teacher Scholarships/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Swindell.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FUTURE TEACHERS OF NORTH CAROLINA
2 SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR CERTAIN STUDENTS WHO AGREE TO
3 BECOME CERTIFIED IN CERTAIN SUBJECT AREAS AND TEACH IN THE
4 STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR
5 THE SCHOLARSHIP.
6

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended
9 by adding the following new section:

10 **"§ 116-209.38. Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Fund.**

11 (a) There is established the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Fund.
12 The purpose of the Fund is to provide a two-year scholarship of six thousand five
13 hundred dollars (\$6,500) per year for any North Carolina student pursuing a college
14 degree to teach in the public schools of the State. The scholarship shall be paid only for
15 the student's junior and senior year. The scholarship is available if the student is
16 enrolled in a State institution of higher education or a private institution of higher
17 education located in this State that has an accredited teacher preparation program for
18 students planning to become certified teachers in North Carolina. The State Education
19 Assistance Authority shall administer the Fund and shall award 100 scholarships
20 annually.

21 (b) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina in consultation
22 with the State Board of Education and the State Board of Community Colleges shall
23 develop the criteria for awarding the scholarships under this section and shall adopt very
24 stringent standards, including minimum grade point average and scholastic aptitude test
25 scores, for awarding these scholarships to ensure that only the best students receive
26 them. Additional criteria for awarding a scholarship under this section shall include all
27 of the following:

- 1 (1) The student is one who either: (i) maintained a "B" average in college
2 and is enrolled as a junior or senior in a teacher preparation program at
3 any of the institutions described by subsection (a) of this section; or
4 (ii) completed a college transfer curriculum at a community college in
5 the State's community college system, maintained a "B" average in the
6 community college courses, and is accepted and enrolled in a teacher
7 preparation program at one of the institutions described by subsection
8 (a) of this section.
- 9 (2) The student agrees to be employed full-time as a teacher in North
10 Carolina for the period of time that satisfies the criteria set out by this
11 section.
- 12 (3) The student agrees to become certified in math, science, special
13 education, or English as a Second Language and teach in that subject
14 area in this State in the public school system for the same number of
15 years for which the scholarship is provided.
- 16 (4) Any additional criteria that the Board of Governors of The University
17 of North Carolina in consultation with the State Board of Education
18 and the State Board of Community Colleges considers necessary to
19 administer the Fund effectively.

20 (c) If a student who is awarded a scholarship under this section fails to comply
21 with the provisions of this section or the terms of the agreement awarding the
22 scholarship, then the student shall repay the full amount of the scholarship provided to
23 the student and the appropriate amount of interest as determined by the State Education
24 Assistance Authority.

25 (d) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, the State Board
26 of Education, and the State Board of Community Colleges shall: (i) prepare a clear
27 written explanation of the Future Teachers of North Carolina Scholarship Fund and the
28 information regarding the availability and criteria for awarding the scholarships, and (ii)
29 shall provide that information to the appropriate counselors in each local school system
30 and the appropriate institutions of higher education and shall charge those counselors to
31 inform students about the scholarships and to encourage them to apply for the
32 scholarships.

33 (e) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall adopt
34 rules to implement this section.

35 (f) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall report to
36 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1 each year regarding
37 the Fund and scholarships awarded from the Fund."

38 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State
39 Education Assistance Authority the sum of six hundred fifty thousand dollars
40 (\$650,000) for the 2005-2006 fiscal year and the sum of one million three hundred
41 thousand dollars (\$1,300,000) for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to implement this act.

42 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2005.