

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1827

Short Title: Employment of Noncertified School Personnel. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Harrison, Jeffus, Womble (Primary Sponsors); Bryant and Wainwright.

Referred to: Education.

April 19, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW REGARDING THE DISMISSAL, DEMOTION,
OR SUSPENSION OF NONCERTIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-45(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Appeals to Board of Education and to Superior Court. – An appeal shall lie to the local board of education from any final administrative decision in the following matters:

- (1) The discipline of a student under G.S. 115C-391(c), (d), (d1), (d2), (d3), or (d4);
- (2) An alleged violation of a specified federal law, State law, State Board of Education policy, State rule, or local board policy, including policies regarding grade retention of students;
- (3) The terms or conditions of employment or employment status of a school employee; and
- (4) Any other decision that by statute specifically provides for a right of appeal to the local board of education and for which there is no other statutory appeal procedure.

As used in this subsection, the term "final administrative decision" means a decision of a school employee from which no further appeal to a school administrator is available.

Any person aggrieved by a decision not covered under subdivisions (1) through (4) of this subsection shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent and thereafter shall have the right to petition the local board of education for a hearing, and the local board may grant a hearing regarding any final decision of school personnel within the local school administrative unit. The local board of education shall notify the person making the petition of its decision whether to grant a hearing.

1 In all appeals to the board it is the duty of the board of education to see that a proper
2 notice is given to all parties concerned and that a record of the hearing is properly
3 entered in the records of the board conducting the hearing.

4 The board of education may designate hearing panels composed of not less than two
5 members of the board to hear and act upon such appeals in the name and on behalf of
6 the board of education.

7 An appeal of right brought before a local board of education under subdivision (1),
8 (2), (3), or (4) of this subsection may be further appealed to the superior court of the
9 State on the grounds that the local board's decision is in violation of constitutional
10 provisions, is in excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the board, is made
11 upon unlawful procedure, is affected by other error of law, is unsupported by substantial
12 evidence in view of the entire record as submitted, or is arbitrary or capricious.
13 However, the right of a noncertified employee to appeal decisions of a local board under
14 subdivision (3) of this subsection shall only apply to decisions concerning the dismissal,
15 demotion, or suspension without pay of the noncertified employee. ~~A noncertified
16 employee may request and shall be entitled to receive written notice as to the reasons
17 for the employee's dismissal, demotion, or suspension without pay. The notice shall be
18 provided to the employee prior to any local board of education hearing on the issue. No
19 noncertified employee shall be dismissed, demoted, or suspended for disciplinary
20 reasons, except for just cause. In cases of such disciplinary action, the employee shall,
21 before the action is taken by the board, be furnished with a statement in writing setting
22 forth in numerical order the specific acts or omissions that are the reasons for the
23 disciplinary action and the employee's appeal rights. A noncertified employee shall have
24 the right to representation by counsel at a local board of education hearing on the issue.~~
25 This subsection shall not alter the employment status of a noncertified employee."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2007, and applies to
27 administrative decisions on or after that date.