

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007**

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HOUSE BILL 314

Short Title: Waive Comm. Coll. Tuition for Ex-Offenders. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Womble, Parmon, Jones, Hall (Primary Sponsors); and
Cunningham.

Referred to: Education, if favorable, Judiciary I.

February 22, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO
2 WAIVE TUITION FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS AND PRISON INMATES
3 DURING THE FIRST THREE YEARS AFTER THEIR RELEASE.
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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115D-5(b) reads as rewritten:

7 "(b) In order to make instruction as accessible as possible to all citizens, the
8 teaching of curricular courses and of noncurricular extension courses at convenient
9 locations away from institution campuses as well as on campuses is authorized and shall
10 be encouraged. A pro rata portion of the established regular tuition rate charged a
11 full-time student shall be charged a part-time student taking any curriculum course. In
12 lieu of any tuition charge, the State Board of Community Colleges shall establish a
13 uniform registration fee, or a schedule of uniform registration fees, to be charged
14 students enrolling in extension courses for which instruction is financed primarily from
15 State funds; ~~provided, however, that the~~ funds. The State Board of Community Colleges
16 may provide by general and uniform regulations for waiver of tuition and registration
17 fees for persons not enrolled in elementary or secondary schools taking courses leading
18 to a high school diploma or equivalent certificate, for training courses for volunteer
19 firemen, local fire department personnel, volunteer rescue and lifesaving department
20 personnel, local rescue and lifesaving department personnel, Radio Emergency
21 Associated Citizens Team (REACT) members when the REACT team is under contract
22 to a county as an emergency response agency, local law-enforcement officers, patients
23 in State alcoholic rehabilitation centers, all full-time custodial employees of the
24 Department of Correction, employees of the Department's Division of Community
25 Corrections and employees of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
26 Prevention required to be certified under Chapter 17C of the General Statutes and the
27 rules of the Criminal Justice and Training Standards Commission, trainees enrolled in
28 courses conducted under the New and Expanding Industry Program, clients of sheltered

1 workshops, clients of adult developmental activity programs, students in Health and
2 Human Services Development Programs, juveniles of any age committed to the
3 Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by a court of competent
4 ~~jurisdiction~~, jurisdiction during the period of commitment and for three years after
5 release, ~~prison inmates~~, inmates during the period of incarceration and for three years
6 after release, and members of the North Carolina State Defense Militia as defined in
7 G.S. 127A-5 and as administered under Article 5 of Chapter 127A of the General
8 Statutes. Provided further, tuition shall be waived for senior citizens attending
9 institutions operating under this Chapter as set forth in Chapter 115B of the General
10 Statutes, Tuition Waiver for Senior Citizens. Provided further, tuition shall also be
11 waived for all courses taken by high school students at community colleges, including
12 students in early college and middle college high school programs, in accordance with
13 G.S. 115D-20(4) and this section."

14 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.