

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**SENATE BILL 1253\***

Short Title: No High School Graduation Proj. Required. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Stevens; and Foriest.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

May 20, 2010

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT REMOVING THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PROJECT AS A  
3 REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-81(b) reads as rewritten:

6 "(b) The Basic Education Program shall include course requirements and descriptions  
7 similar in format to materials previously contained in the standard course of study and it shall  
8 provide:

- 9 (1) A core curriculum for all students that takes into account the special needs of  
10 children;
- 11 (2) A set of competencies, by grade level, for each curriculum area;
- 12 (3) A list of textbooks for use in providing the curriculum;
- 13 (4) Standards for student performance and promotion based on the mastery of  
14 competencies, including standards for graduation, that take into account  
15 children with disabilities and, in particular, include appropriate  
16 modifications;
- 17 (5) A program of remedial education;
- 18 (6) Required support programs;
- 19 (7) A definition of the instructional day;
- 20 (8) Class size recommendations and requirements;
- 21 (9) Prescribed staffing allotment ratios;
- 22 (10) Material and equipment allotment ratios;
- 23 (11) Facilities guidelines that reflect educational program appropriateness,  
24 long-term cost efficiency, and safety considerations; and
- 25 (12) Any other information the Board considers appropriate and necessary.

26 The State Board shall not adopt or enforce any rule that requires Algebra I as a graduation  
27 standard or as a requirement for a high school diploma for any student whose individualized  
28 education program (i) identifies the student as learning disabled in the area of mathematics and  
29 (ii) states that this learning disability will prevent the student from mastering Algebra I.

30 The State Board shall not require any student to prepare a high school graduation project as  
31 a condition of graduation from high school ~~prior to July 1, 2011;~~ school; local boards of  
32 education may, however, require their students to complete a high school graduation project."

33 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

