

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 45*
Committee Substitute Favorable 2/13/13
Third Edition Engrossed 3/13/13

Short Title: Internet Access for Public Schools.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 4, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN INVENTORY OF INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT
3 ROBUST DIGITAL LEARNING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AS RECOMMENDED
4 BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION STUDY COMMITTEE ON
5 DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

6 Whereas, digital learning is becoming an integral component of a 21st Century
7 education for all students in all schools across North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, effective digital learning requires a variety of resources, including
9 infrastructure requirements, digital devices, educational software, high-quality teachers, and
10 perhaps most essentially, reliable Internet connectivity; and

11 Whereas, while all LEAs currently have Internet access, wireless access on a school
12 building level may be either unavailable or unreliable due to funding or infrastructure
13 limitations; Now, therefore,

14 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

15 **SECTION 1.** The State Board of Education shall establish a standard for sufficient
16 classroom wireless connectivity for a digital learning environment and conduct an inventory of
17 the wireless access and bandwidth capacity of each public school in the State based on that
18 standard.

19 The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education
20 Oversight Committee and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Technology by
21 December 1, 2013, on the inventory results, its recommendations on ways to achieve a
22 sufficient standard of wireless access and bandwidth in all classrooms, and the cost of
23 achieving that standard.

24 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2013.

