

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013**

S

1

SENATE BILL 118*

Short Title: Digital Learning Competencies/School Emp'ees. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Soucek, Hise, Rucho (Primary Sponsors); Bingham, Brock, Brown, D. Davis, J. Davis, Goolsby, Jackson, Meredith, Newton, and Wade.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

February 21, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND
3 IMPLEMENT DIGITAL LEARNING STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL
4 ADMINISTRATORS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
5 COMMISSION STUDY COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
6 IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

7 Whereas, digital learning environments are essential for equipping students with
8 21st Century skills and preparing them for success in both career and college; and

9 Whereas, effective educators, including classroom teachers, instructional technology
10 facilitators, media specialists, teaching assistants, principals, and superintendents, must be
11 committed to creating an environment that uses multiple digital learning resources; and

12 Whereas, high-quality, ongoing professional development and support are key
13 factors in developing successful digital learning environments; and

14 Whereas, some North Carolina local school administrative units (LEAs) have taken
15 the initiative to provide support, resources, and professional development that enable teachers
16 to successfully integrate digital learning into the classroom; and

17 Whereas, some of these initiatives have resulted in remarkable gains in student
18 performance; and

19 Whereas, it is essential that LEAs continue to share ideas and resources on digital
20 learning and that digital learning be implemented in all classrooms in the State; Now, therefore,
21 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

22 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:
23 **"§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.**

24 The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be vested
25 in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish policy for the
26 system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General Assembly. The powers
27 and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as follows:

28 ...

29 (40) Duty to Develop and Implement Digital Competency Standards. – The State
30 Board of Education shall develop digital competency standards to provide a
31 framework for schools of education, school administrators, and classroom
32 teachers on the needed skills to provide high-quality, integrated digital
33 learning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the State Board shall
34 include digital competencies and related required professional development



1 as an integral component of initial licensure and licensure renewal
2 requirements for teachers and school administrators."
3 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.