

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

S

2

SENATE BILL 597
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 4/28/15

Short Title: Repeal References to ABCs.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 30, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REPEAL REFERENCES TO THE ABCS PROGRAM IN THE GENERAL
3 STATUTES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1.1. G.S. 115C-17 is repealed.

6 SECTION 1.2. G.S. 115C-105.36 is repealed.

7 SECTION 1.3. G.S. 143B-146.1 reads as rewritten:

8 "§ 143B-146.1. Mission of schools; definitions.

9 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the mission of the residential school
10 community is to challenge with high expectations each child to learn, to achieve, and to fulfill
11 his or her potential.

12 (b) The following definitions apply in this Part:

13 (1) ~~ABC's Program~~ or Program. – The School-Based Management and
14 Accountability Program developed by the State Board.

15 (2) Department. – The Department of Health and Human Services.

16 (3) Instructional personnel. – Assistant principals, teachers, instructional
17 personnel, instructional support personnel, and teacher assistants employed
18 in a residential school.

19 (4) Participating school. – A residential school that is required to participate in
20 the ~~ABC's Program~~.

21 (4a) Residential school. – A school operated by the Department of Health and
22 Human Services that provides residential services to students. For the
23 purposes of this Part, "residential school" does not include a school operated
24 pursuant to Article 9C of Chapter 115C.

25 (5) Residential school personnel. – The individuals included in
26 G.S. 143B-146.16(a)(2).

27 (6) Schools. – The residential schools under the control of the Secretary.

28 (7) Secretary. – The Secretary of Health and Human Services.

29 (8) State Board. – The State Board of Education."

30 SECTION 1.4. G.S. 143B-146.2 reads as rewritten:

31 "§ 143B-146.2. ~~ABC's School-Based Management and Accountability Program in~~
32 ~~residential schools.~~

33 (a) The Secretary, in consultation with the General Assembly and the State Board, may
34 designate residential schools that must participate in the ~~ABC's Program~~. The primary goal of
35 the ~~ABC's Program~~ is to improve student performance. The Program is based upon an
36 accountability, recognition, assistance, and intervention process in order to hold each



1 participating school, its principal, and the instructional personnel accountable for improved
2 student performance in that school.

3 (b) In order to support the participating schools in the implementation of this Program,
4 the State Board, in consultation with the Secretary, shall adopt guidelines, including guidelines
5 to:

6 (1) Assist the Secretary and the participating schools in the development and
7 implementation of the ~~ABC's~~ Program.

8 (2) Recognize the participating schools that meet or exceed their goals.

9 (3) Identify participating schools that are low-performing and assign assistance
10 teams to those schools. The assistance teams should include individuals with
11 expertise in residential schools, individuals with experience in the education
12 of children with disabilities, and others the State Board, in consultation with
13 the Secretary, considers appropriate.

14 (4) Enable assistance teams to make appropriate recommendations.

15 (c) The ~~ABC's~~ Program shall provide increased decision making and parental
16 involvement at the school level with the goal of improving student performance.

17 (d) Consistent with improving student performance, the Secretary shall provide
18 maximum flexibility to participating schools in the use of funds to enable those schools to
19 accomplish their goals."

20 **SECTION 1.5.** G.S. 143B-146.3 reads as rewritten:

21 "**§ 143B-146.3. Annual performance goals.**

22 The ~~ABC's~~ Program shall (i) focus on student performance in the basics of reading,
23 mathematics, and communications skills in elementary and middle schools, (ii) focus on
24 student performance in courses required for graduation and on other measures required by the
25 State Board in the high schools, and (iii) hold participating schools accountable for the
26 educational growth of their students. To those ends, the State Board shall design and implement
27 an accountability system that sets annual performance standards for each participating school in
28 order to measure the growth in performance of the students in each individual school."

29 **SECTION 1.6.** G.S. 143B-146.4 is repealed.

30 **SECTION 1.7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.