

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 933

Short Title: Reciprocity/School Psychologist Licensure. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Dobson, Torbett, Lewis, and Lucas (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Health

May 16, 2018

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO GRANT A LICENSE TO
3 PRACTICE AS A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST TO ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO HOLD
4 THE NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST CREDENTIAL, AS
5 RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY.

6 Whereas, school psychologists perform essential services for the social, emotional,
7 and mental health of students throughout North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, the number of school psychologists in the State has been steadily declining
9 since the 2013-2014 academic year; and

10 Whereas, one reason the State faces a shortage of school psychologists is the lack of
11 reciprocity granted to individuals who are licensed as school psychologists in other states and
12 may wish to practice in North Carolina; and

13 Whereas, the standards to receive a Nationally Certified School Psychologist
14 credential from the National Association of School Psychologists are at least as stringent as the
15 standards the State currently requires for licensure as a school psychologist; Now, therefore,
16 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

17 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-270.20(b) is repealed.

18 **SECTION 1.(b)** The catch line of G.S. 115C-270.20 reads as rewritten:

19 "**§ 115C-270.20. ~~Licensure-Teacher licensure requirements.~~**"

20 **SECTION 2.** Article 17E of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
21 adding a new section to read:

22 "**§ 115C-270.21. Administrator and student services personnel licensure requirements.**

23 (a) Administrators. – The State Board shall establish classification and levels of
24 preparation necessary for issuance of licenses for administrators, as provided in this Chapter.

25 (b) Student Services Personnel. – The State Board shall establish classification and levels
26 of preparation necessary for issuance of licenses for student services personnel, as provided in
27 this Article.

28 The State Board of Education shall issue a school psychologist license to an individual who
29 does any of the following: (i) meets the criteria for licensure as a school psychologist established
30 by the State Board or (ii) holds the Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential issued by
31 the National Association of School Psychologists."

32 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to applications
33 for licensure submitted on or after that date.

