



1 concerns of college students participating in athletics on behalf of the constituent institutions of  
2 The University of North Carolina and to propose appropriate legislation where needed to  
3 implement the objectives of this Commission.

4 **SECTION 1.(b)** The Commission shall consist of six members of the Senate,  
5 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate with political parties represented in  
6 proportion to the legislative makeup, and six members of the House of Representatives,  
7 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with political parties represented in  
8 proportion to the legislative makeup.

9 Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled by the same appointing authority that  
10 made the initial appointment.

11 **SECTION 1.(c)** The Lieutenant Governor shall be an ex officio voting member  
12 and shall also serve as the chair of the Commission. The Commission shall meet upon the call  
13 of the chair.

14 **SECTION 1.(d)** A quorum shall be a majority of the Commission members.

15 **SECTION 2.** The Commission shall study issues related to the provision of health  
16 insurance, sports injuries and nonsports injuries, and profit-sharing for student athletes. In its  
17 study, the Commission shall consider all of the following:

- 18 (1) Physical and mental health and safety concerns arising out of participation in  
19 athletic competition or resulting from injuries sustained during athletic  
20 competition, including, but not limited to, concussions and other  
21 life-impacting injuries.
- 22 (2) Long-term physical and mental health and wellness issues grounded in  
23 participation in athletic competition but not manifesting until later in an  
24 athlete's life and the ability of former athletes to receive adequate long-term  
25 treatment for these issues.
- 26 (3) The need for full-time enrolled college students to have adequate time to  
27 devote to educational responsibilities separate and apart from time demands  
28 for athletic competition.
- 29 (4) Educational opportunities for choosing majors and classes consistent with  
30 the nonathletic participating students' opportunities at a constituent  
31 institution, including, but not limited to, academic choices and  
32 extracurricular abilities to participate in internships and study abroad.
- 33 (5) The right to receive academic instruction from qualified faculty members at  
34 the constituent institutions and to be taught at an academic level consistent  
35 with the standards of accredited higher education institutions.
- 36 (6) The right to a fair and impartial hearing and the right to be independently  
37 represented before being disciplined for alleged eligibility rules violations by  
38 any school, conference, or membership association governing participation  
39 in college athletics.
- 40 (7) In exchange for his or her participation on behalf of any constituent  
41 institution, a fair and adequate financial aid or scholarship assistance  
42 package to the extent financial aid or scholarship sources are provided to  
43 selected students in exchange for their participation on institutional athletic  
44 teams.
- 45 (8) Consideration of remuneration or profit-sharing for student athletes for the  
46 use by institutional or commercial entities of the students' image, or other  
47 identifiable source, such as television rights or collegiate apparel that  
48 produce commercial profit for the institutions, membership associations, or  
49 commercial entities.
- 50 (9) The right of students participating in college athletics to be adequately  
51 represented by attorneys, agents, or financial advisors throughout their

1 college careers (as do all other students) without being subject to losing their  
2 eligibility to participate in college athletics.

3 (10) A review of regulatory rules and punishments imposed on student athletes  
4 by any governing membership organization, including, but not limited to, the  
5 National Collegiate Athletic Association, that limits a student's ability to  
6 transfer between schools, or participate on college athletic teams by  
7 restricting the student's ability to engage in outside work or compensatory  
8 services.

9 (11) The obligation of the university to provide the means for a student-athlete to  
10 finish their academic requirements to obtain an undergraduate degree after  
11 their athletic eligibility or athletic scholarship has expired.

12 (12) Any other issue the Commission deems relevant based on testimony or  
13 evidence presented to the Commission.

14 **SECTION 3.** The Commission, while in the discharge of its official duties, may  
15 exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4.  
16 The Commission may meet in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.  
17 Members of the Commission shall receive subsistence and travel expenses at the rates set forth  
18 in G.S. 120-3.1 or G.S. 138-6 as appropriate.

19 The Legislative Services Commission, through the Legislative Services Officer,  
20 shall assign professional staff to assist the Commission in its work. The Senate shall assign  
21 clerical staff to the Commission, and the expenses relating to the clerical employees shall be  
22 borne by the Commission. The Commission may contract for professional, clerical, or  
23 consultant services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.

24 **SECTION 4.** The Commission shall submit an interim report on the results of its  
25 study, including any proposed legislation, by December 1, 2017, to the members of the Senate  
26 and the House of Representatives by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President  
27 Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
28 Legislative Library. The Commission shall submit a final report on the results of its study,  
29 including any proposed legislation, by April 1, 2018, to the members of the Senate and the  
30 House of Representatives, by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro  
31 Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the  
32 Legislative Library. The Commission shall terminate upon the convening of the 2019 General  
33 Assembly or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

34 **SECTION 5.** The State Board of Education shall establish a three-year Educator  
35 Preparation Pilot Program to operate from the 2017-2018 school year through the 2019-2020  
36 school year. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State  
37 Board shall select up to two new Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) to be part of the  
38 program by October 1, 2017. These EPPs shall be deemed recognized EPPs under  
39 G.S. 115C-269.1(15) for the duration of the pilot period and shall be permitted to recommend  
40 clinical residency candidates for licensure without receiving State approval under  
41 G.S. 115C-269.10. During the course of the pilot program, each pilot EPP shall meet all other  
42 requirements of Article 17D of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes. In order to be eligible for  
43 the pilot program, an EPP shall meet the following criteria:

44 (1) Meet the criteria for approval established in G.S. 115C-269.15,  
45 115C-269.20, and 115C-269.25.

46 (2) Have a demonstrated track record of success with clearly demonstrated  
47 results as an EPP in other states.

48 (3) Have CAEP accreditation or be in the process of attaining CAEP  
49 accreditation in North Carolina or another state.

1           Each pilot EPP's recognized EPP status will expire on June 30, 2020. In order for  
2 the pilot EPPs to regain recognized status, they must meet all requirements of Article 17D of  
3 Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

4           **SECTION 6.** Section 5 is effective when Senate Bill 599, 2017 Regular Session,  
5 becomes law. The remainder of this act becomes effective July 1, 2017.