

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

**H.B. 89**  
**Feb 18, 2019**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE BILL DRH30021-MKa-62

Short Title: SEA-Tech CIHS/Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Davis.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO EXPAND THE SOUTHEAST AREA TECHNICAL  
3 HIGH SCHOOL IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY.

4 Whereas, in the fall of 2017, New Hanover County Schools opened Southeast Area  
5 Technical High School (SEA-Tech), as a choice-based cooperative innovative high school  
6 available to students in the Wilmington Metro region of North Carolina; and

7 Whereas, in partnership with Cape Fear Community College (CFCC), SEA-Tech  
8 utilizes the cooperative innovative high school model to provide an early college experience to  
9 empower students to be college- and career-ready with options to enter the workforce at an  
10 advanced level or continue into a postsecondary training institution. Students at the school can  
11 earn a traditional high school diploma while having no-cost access to career-based credentials  
12 and certifications offered by CFCC; and

13 Whereas, the future master plan for the facility includes spaces to further support  
14 many programs on-site, including:

- 15 (1) A culinary arts classroom to allow students to apprentice from a trained chef.
- 16 (2) A carpentry shop to allow students to develop hands-on skills for a career in  
17 residential construction.
- 18 (3) A makerspace to allow students to develop other hands-on skills such as 3D  
19 printing, soldering, and sewing.
- 20 (4) Public safety spaces to afford students the environment to learn emergency  
21 management training skills from trained emergency professionals.
- 22 (5) Computer labs to train students in health-science medical coding, hospitality  
23 and tourism, and sports management.
- 24 (6) A coffee bar to allow students to develop skills in entrepreneurship, by  
25 fostering planning and financial management, and implementing both  
26 production- and service-oriented skills.
- 27 (7) A career center with on-site counselors to help guide students with their path  
28 to real-world employment; and

29 Whereas, in addition to offering on-site academies for their curriculum, the on-site  
30 spaces are designed to further foster career development. Operable walls and mobile furniture  
31 will allow maximum flexibility. Interactive state-of-the-art flat panel display screens will bring  
32 technology to the forefront of learning in each core class; and

33 Whereas, in the fall of 2019, SEA-Tech will be relocating from the North Campus of  
34 CFCC to a New Hanover County Schools–owned location that is currently being used as a  
35 temporary elementary school one-half mile from the campus; and



1           Whereas, funding is needed to help SEA-Tech continue to grow to serve the  
2 employment needs of the surrounding region; Now, therefore,  
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4           **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
5 Public Instruction the sum of eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to  
6 be allocated to New Hanover County Schools to build a facility to support the expansion of the  
7 Southeast Area Technical High School's innovative curriculum in partnership with Cape Fear  
8 Community College, which will support the growth and development of the Cape Fear region.

9           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2019.