

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 582
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 5/5/21

Short Title: High School Adjunct Instructors/CC Prep.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 7, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ALLOW CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS TO BE ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS IN
3 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE COURSES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-298.5 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 115C-298.5. Adjunct K-12 instructors in core academic ~~subjects~~subjects, fine and**
7 **performing arts, and foreign languages.**

8 (a) ~~Adjunct Hiring Criteria.~~Criteria for Faculty Members. – The State Board of
9 Education shall develop minimum criteria of relevant education or employment experience for
10 an individual who is currently employed at an institution of higher education as a faculty member
11 to qualify that individual to contract as an adjunct instructor in specific core academic ~~subjects~~
12 subjects, fine and performing arts, and foreign language courses in grades kindergarten through
13 12 and shall make such criteria available to local boards of education.

14 (a1) Adjunct Instructors with Teacher Preparation. – An individual with a related
15 bachelor's degree or graduate degree who attends a community college or educator preparation
16 program and completes courses concentrating in teacher preparation for at least one semester
17 shall be eligible to contract with a local board of education to teach high school-level courses in
18 core academic subjects, fine and performing arts, and foreign language in the individual's area of
19 specialized knowledge or work experience pursuant to this section. For the purposes of this
20 section, one semester of courses concentrating in teacher preparation shall mean at least nine
21 credit hours taken in a semester in a program of study leading to a certificate, diploma, or
22 associate degree in teacher preparation.

23 (b) Contracting With Adjunct Instructors. – Notwithstanding any provisions in this
24 Article to the contrary and Part 3 of Article 22 of this Chapter, a local board of education may
25 contract with an individual to serve as an adjunct instructor who meets the adjunct hiring criteria
26 established by the State Board of Education for specific core academic subjects. The local board
27 of education may contract with an adjunct instructor on an annual or semester basis, subject to
28 the following requirements:

- 29 (1) An adjunct instructor may be employed for less than 20 hours per week or for
30 less than six full consecutive months of employment. Adjunct instructors may
31 be classified as temporary full-time or part-time employees. Based on the
32 status as a temporary public school employee, an adjunct instructor shall not
33 be eligible to earn paid leave, participate in the Teachers' and State Employees'
34 Retirement System, or receive or purchase health benefits through the State
35 Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees.



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- 1 (2) An adjunct instructor shall be subject to a criminal history check to ensure that
2 the person has not been convicted of any crime listed in G.S. 115C-332.
3 (3) An adjunct instructor shall not be required to hold or apply for licensure as a
4 teacher.
5 (4) If an adjunct instructor is not licensed as a teacher, the adjunct instructor shall
6 complete preservice training, which may be offered through an educator
7 preparation program or by a local school administrative unit, in all of the
8 following areas prior to beginning instruction:
9 a. The identification and education of children with disabilities.
10 b. Positive management of student behavior.
11 c. Effective communication for defusing and de-escalating disruptive or
12 dangerous behavior.
13 d. Safe and appropriate use of seclusion and restraint."

14 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
15 the 2021-2022 school year.