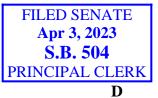
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2023



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## SENATE BILL DRS15199-MTa-134

Short Title:	School Psychologist Omnibus.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senator Sanderson (Primary Sponsor).	
Referred to:		

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED	
2	AN ACT TO ENACT PROVISIONS RELATED TO IMPROVING THE NUMBER AN	D
3	QUALITY OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA.	
4	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:	
5	•	
6	PART I. INCREASE COMPENSATION FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS	
7	SECTION 1.(a) For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, in addition to any salary received	ed
8	under the teacher salary schedule, school psychologists shall receive the following sala	ry
9	supplements:	-
10	(1) The sum of six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00) per month.	
11	(2) School psychologists who have a Nationally Certified School Psychologi	st
12	(NCSP) credential shall receive a salary supplement each month of twel	ve
13	percent (12%) of their monthly salary.	
14	<b>SECTION 1.(b)</b> There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department	of
15	Public Instruction for the 2023-2024 fiscal year the sum of eight million one hundred thousand	ıd
16	dollars (\$8,100,000) in recurring funds to provide compensation increases for scho	ol
17	psychologists pursuant to this section.	
18		
19	PART II. SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS GRANT PROGRAM	
20	SECTION 2.(a) Article 21 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by	yу
21	adding a new section to read:	
22	" <u>§ 115C-316.6. School Psychologists Grant Program.</u>	
23	(a) The Department of Public Instruction shall establish the School Psychologists Gra	
24	Program (Program) to improve the safety, mental health, and well-being of students by providing	_
25	grants to public school units to recruit school psychologists, to the extent funds are made	<u>le</u>
26	available for this purpose, as follows:	
27	(1) Grant application. – A public school unit may submit an application to the	
28	Superintendent of Public Instruction to receive a grant pursuant to the	
29	subdivision. The application shall identify current and ongoing needs f	
30	school psychologist services, including needs related to recruitment, and	<u>1d</u>
31	estimated costs associated with those needs.	
32	(2) Criteria and guidelines. – The Superintendent of Public Instruction sha	
33	develop criteria and guidelines for the administration and use of the gran	
34	under the Program, including any documentation required to be submitted l	<u>y</u>
35	applicants.	



General Assen	bly Of North Carolina	Session 2023
(3)	Award of funds. – The Superintendent of Pub	blic Instruction shall award grants
<u></u>	to public school units to provide signi	
	psychologists, as follows:	
	a. The Department shall prioritize the	award of funds to public school
	units that do not employ a full-time so	
	application is submitted.	
	b. No individual bonus shall be grea	ater than five thousand dollars
	(\$5,000).	<u></u>
	c. As a condition of accepting a significant	ng bonus, a school psychologist
	shall agree to remain employed in the	
	one year.	<u>F</u>
	d. Grants provided to public school uni	its pursuant to the Program shall
	be used to supplement and not to su	
	already provided for these services.	11
(b) Rep	ort. – No later than April 1, 2024, and each sub	sequent year thereafter in which
	pursuant to this section are awarded, the Supe	
	the Program to the Joint Legislative Educatio	
-	Division. The report shall include the identity	-
	t through the Program, the amount of funding pr	-
	unds by the public school unit."	
	<b>CTION 2.(b)</b> Appropriation. – There is approp	briated from the General Fund to
	of Public Instruction for the 2023-2024 fiscal y	
hundred thousa	nd dollars (\$1,700,000) in recurring funds to est	ablish and implement the School
	Grant Program pursuant to G.S. 115C-316.6, as e	
	SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS RECRUIT	MENT AND RETENTION
COORDINAT	OR	
	<b>CTION 3.</b> No later than September 1, 2023, the	1
1	tly reclassify at least one position within the D	1
	retention coordinator to increase the number of	
	t have a demonstrated need that is difficult to fil	
	fectively recruiting school psychologists to Nort	h Carolina from other states with
a surplus of trai	ned school psychologists.	
	HOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS INTERNSHIP PI	
	CTION 4.(a) Article 21 of Chapter 115C of the	e General Statutes is amended by
adding a new se		
	School psychologists internship program.	
	Department of Public Instruction shall establish	1 1 <b>V</b>
	n public school units. Participants in an appro-	
preparation pro	gram shall receive up to a 10-month stipend du	ring the internship period of the
program. The	stipend shall be at the beginning salary of a s	school psychologist. The school
psychology pre	paration program where the intern is enrolled	shall provide the Department of
Public Instructi	on with certification that the intern is an eligible	e full-time student.
	d supervisors in public school units providing i	
	g stipends in accordance with this section shall	
sum salary supp	blement of between five hundred dollars (\$500.0	0) and one thousand two hundred
dollars (\$1,200)	) in an amount to be determined by the public sc	<u>chool unit.</u> "
SEC	<b>CTION 4.(b)</b> There is appropriated from the Ge	eneral Fund to the Department of

50 Public Instruction the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in recurring funds to establish and

implement the school psychologists internship program pursuant to G.S. 115C-316.7, as enacted				
by this act.				
PART V. FUNDS FOR A VIRTUAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM				
<b>SECTION 5.</b> There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors				
of The University of North Carolina for the 2023-2024 fiscal year the sum of five million dollars				
(\$5,000,000) in nonrecurring funds to be allocated to Appalachian State University (ASU) to				
host a virtual school psychology training program at the ASU campus in Hickory, North Carolina.				
PART VI. INCREASE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST TRAINING				
PROGRAMS				
<b>SECTION 6.</b> There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors				
of The University of North Carolina the sum of one million six hundred thousand dollars				
(\$1,600,000) in recurring funds for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to be allocated to the following				
constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina to support the school psychology				
programs at those institutions with the goal of doubling the number of school psychologists				
produced:				
(1) Appalachian State University.				
(2) East Carolina University.				
(3) North Carolina State University.				
(4) The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.				
(5) Western Carolina University.				
PART VII. EFFECTIVE DATE				
<b>SECTION 7.</b> This act becomes effective July 1, 2023.				