

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL 125
Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 3/14/17
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/21/17
PROPOSED HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S125-PCS15315-TC-62

Short Title: Various Changes to Education.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 23, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT STUDENT
3 ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS AND TO PROVIDE THAT STUDENTS
4 SERVING AS LEGISLATIVE OR GOVERNOR'S PAGES SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR
5 PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROGRAMS AND TO EXPAND ELIGIBILITY OF
6 CHILDREN TO OBTAIN CERTAIN SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER PART 2 OF ARTICLE
7 14 OF CHAPTER 143B OF THE GENERAL STATUTES.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9
10 **Part I. ENCOURAGE LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO ADOPT STUDENT**
11 **ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS**

12 **SECTION 1.(a)** Part 1 of Article 26 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is
13 amended by adding a new section to read:

14 **"§ 115C-382.5. Student attendance recognition programs.**

15 Local boards of education are encouraged to adopt a student attendance recognition program
16 within the local school administrative unit to promote student attendance in school and
17 participation in class as an integral part of academic achievement and the learning process. If the
18 local board of education adopts a student attendance recognition program, a student with an
19 absence resulting from service as a legislative page or a Governor's page shall be eligible for
20 participation in the program and the student's absence shall not be included as part of the student's
21 record of attendance for the purposes of the program."

22 **SECTION 1.(b)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning
23 with the 2018-2019 school year.

24
25 **PART II. EXPAND ELIGIBILITY OF CHILDREN TO OBTAIN CERTAIN WARTIME**
26 **VETERANS SCHOLARSHIPS**

27 **SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 143B-1226 reads as rewritten:

28 **"§ 143B-1226. Classes or categories of eligibility under which scholarships may be**
29 **awarded.**

30 ...

31 (b) Scholarship Eligibility Classes. –

32 ...

33 (3) Class II: For the purposes of this subdivision, a child shall include any person
34 meeting either of the requirements set forth in G.S. 143B-1224(3)a. or b. and



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1 who is a child, as that term is defined in 37 U.S.C. § 401. Under this class a
 2 scholarship may be awarded to not more than 100 children yearly, each of
 3 whose veteran parent, at the time the benefits pursuant to this Part are sought
 4 to be availed of:

- 5 a. Is or was at the time of the parent's death receiving compensation for
 6 a wartime service-connected disability of twenty percent (20%) or
 7 more, but less than one hundred percent (100%), as rated by the United
 8 States Department of Veterans Affairs, or
- 9 b. Was awarded a Purple Heart for wounds received as a result of an act
 10 of any opposing armed force, as a result of an international terrorist
 11 attack, or as a result of military operations while serving as part of a
 12 peacekeeping force.

13 (4) Class III: For the purposes of this subdivision, a child shall include any person
 14 meeting either of the requirements set forth in G.S. 143B-1224(3)a. or b. and
 15 who is a child, as that term is defined in 37 U.S.C. § 401. Under this class a
 16 scholarship may be awarded to not more than 100 children yearly, each of
 17 whose veteran parent, at the time the benefits pursuant to this Part are sought
 18 to be availed of:

- 19 a. Is or was at the time of his death drawing pension for permanent and
 20 total disability, nonservice-connected, as rated by the United States
 21 Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 22 b. Is deceased and who does not fall within the provisions of any other
 23 eligibility class described in G.S. 143B-1226(1), (2), (3), (4)a., nor (5).
- 24 c. Served in a combat zone, or waters adjacent to a combat zone, or any
 25 other campaign, expedition, or engagement for which the United
 26 States Department of Defense authorizes a campaign badge or medal,
 27 who does not fall within the provisions of any other class described in
 28 G.S. 143B-1226(1), (2), (3), (4)a., or (5).

29"

30 **SECTION 2.(b)** The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs shall document
 31 the number of applicants who apply for Class II and Class III scholarships, as provided in
 32 G.S. 143B-1226, and shall report on this information to the Joint Legislative Oversight
 33 Committee on General Government by March 30, 2019. The report shall include the total number
 34 of applications received and the total number of those applications made eligible as a result of
 35 this act.

36
 37 **PART III. EFFECTIVE DATE**

38 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.