GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019

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H.B. 315 Mar 7, 2019 HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH50047-TC-7A

	Short Title:	Instructional Material Selection. (Public)	
	Sponsors:	Representatives Elmore, Arp, and Johnson (Primary Sponsors).	
	Referred to:		
1		A BILL TO BE ENTITLED	
2	AN ACT TO	AN ACT TO MODERNIZE THE SELECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR	
3	NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.		
4	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:		
5	SECTION 1. Part 3 of Article 8 of Chapter 115C is repealed.		
6	SE	CTION 2. Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by adding	
7	a new Part to a		
8		"Part 3C. Selection of Instructional Material.	
9	" <u>§ 115C-102.2</u>	20. Definition of instructional materials.	
10	The follow	ving definitions apply in this Part:	
11	<u>(1)</u>	Health and safety programs Any instruction, curricula, or materials intended	
12		to impart information or promote discussion or understanding regarding any	
13		of the following:	
14		a. Reproductive health and safety, as provided in	
15		<u>G.S. 115C-81.30(a)(1)-(13).</u>	
16		b. Mental and emotional health, as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(1).	
17		<u>c.</u> Growth and development, as provided in G.S. 115C-81.25(c)(9).	
18		<u>d.</u> <u>Anti-bullying or anti-harassment.</u>	
19	<u>(2)</u>		
20		enough to cover the primary objectives outlined in the standard course of	
21		study for a grade or course. Formats for instructional materials may be print	
22		or nonprint, including hardbound books, softbound books, activity-oriented	
23		programs, classroom kits, or digital resources that require the use of electronic	
24		equipment in order to be used in the learning process.	
25	<u>(3)</u>	· · · · ·	
26	<u>(4)</u>	· · · ·	
27	<u>(5)</u>		
28	<u>(6)</u>		
29		instruction for the standard course of study for a grade or course or general	
30		education needs of the school. Supplemental materials may include textbooks,	
31		library books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, and other supplemental	
32		instructional materials needed for instructional purposes in the local school	

instructional materials needed for instructional purposes in the local school administrative unit. Supplemental materials may be print or nonprint, including hardbound books, softbound books, activity-oriented programs, classroom kits, or digital resources that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.



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1	(7) Unfit materials. – Instructional or supplemental materials determined to be
2	inappropriate for use in an elementary or secondary school because the
3	material is either educationally unsuitable, pervasively vulgar, or
4	inappropriate to the age, maturity, or grade level of the students.
5	"§ 115C-102.25. Selection of instructional materials.
6	(a) Local Board Adoption Local boards of education shall select and adopt
7	instructional materials for each standard course of study at each instructional level in the
8	elementary school and the secondary school adopted by the State Board of Education as provided
9	in Part 1 of Article 8 of this Chapter.
10	(b) Evaluation of Instructional Materials Prior to Adoption. – For each standard course
11	of study, the local board of education may require experts employed by the local board of
12	education and certified in the discipline in which the instructional material would be used to offer
13	evaluation reports to the local board on materials being considered for adoption. Such evaluation
14	reports should give special consideration to the suitability of the instructional materials to the
15	instructional level for which it is offered, the content or subject matter, whether the instructional
16	materials is aligned with the standard course of study, and other criteria prescribed by the local
17	board.
18	" <u>§ 115C-102.30. Selection of supplemental materials.</u>
19	(a) Local boards of education shall adopt written policies concerning the procedures to
20	be followed in their local school administrative units for the selection and procurement of
21	supplemental materials. Local boards of education shall have sole authority to select and procure
22	supplemental materials, whether or not the materials contain commercial advertising, to
23	determine if the materials are related to and within the limits of the prescribed curriculum, and
24	to determine when the materials may be presented to students during the school day.
25 26	(b) <u>Supplemental materials shall neither displace nor be used to the exclusion of</u>
26	instructional materials.
27 28	" <u>§ 115C-102.35. Selection of health and safety instructional and supplemental materials.</u> (a) When adopting, modifying, or amending a health and safety program and the
28 29	instructional and supplemental materials for that program, a local board of education shall
2) 30	<u>conduct a public hearing after adequately notifying the public at least 10 days prior to the hearing.</u>
31	(b) The local board of education shall also provide both electronic and written notice to
32	all parents of students in the local school administrative unit of the public hearing and the
33	opportunity to review those materials in the program repository, as provided in
34	G.S. 115C-102.50, at least 60 days before the public hearing occurs.
35	(c) The notice to parents provided for in subsection (b) of this section shall include the
36	following in both written and electronic form:
37	(1) A detailed description of the program's objectives and any proposed changes,
38	including any topics that the local board of education determines that a
39	reasonable parent in that community may wish to examine as to the age
40	appropriateness of the topics.
41	(2) All written and audio materials that will be used.
42	(3) A link to, or information on how to access, the program repository on the local
43	school administrative unit's Web site, as provided in G.S. 115C-102.50.
44	" <u>§ 115C-102.40. Purchase of instructional and supplemental materials.</u>
45	(a) Funds allocated by the State Board of Education or appropriated in the current
46	expense or capital outlay budgets of the local school administrative units shall be used by the
47	local board of education for purchase, lease, or rental of instructional or supplemental materials
48	and for hardware, software, or other equipment necessary for the use of the instructional or
49	supplemental materials. The title of those materials and equipment shall be vested in the local
50	board of education.

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1	(b) Local	boards of education are encouraged to partner with	other local boards of
2		ner public schools to jointly purchase instructional and su	
3		structional materials purchased with State funds shall inc	-
4		d of education the license to produce braille, large print	
5		ructional materials for use in the local school administrat	~
6	•	ocal board of education shall publish on the Web site	
7		it the title, author, and publisher of all instructional and s	
8		local board of education.	
9	-	Provision and maintenance of instructional and supp	lemental materials.
10		tudents of the public elementary and secondary schools	
11		e instructional materials within the appropriation of the	
12		e local board shall provide for the free use by students,	
13		tary and secondary instructional materials. No local bo	
14		a rental fee for the use of instructional materials or for h	•
15	• • • • •	necessary for the use of the instructional or supplemental	
16	· · ·	boards of education shall provide adequate and safe sto	
17		nstructional and supplemental materials and emphasiz	-
18		per care of instructional and supplemental materials and	
19		instructional materials.	
20		il's parents or legal guardians may be charged damage fe	es for abuse or loss of
21		upplemental materials or equipment necessary for the	
22		ed by the local board of education. Damage fees collected	
23		the local board of education for purchase of instructio	
24		ided in G.S. 115C-120.40.	<u> </u>
25	-	Instructional materials repository.	
26		al board of education shall maintain a continuous	repository of current
27		supplemental materials that have been purchased b	
28		aterials shall be maintained at a central location for in-per	-
29	and the public up	oon request, and the names of all those materials shall	be posted to the local
30		tive unit's Web site for review by parents and the public.	-
31	<u>(b)</u> In add	lition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this sec	tion, a local board of
32	education shall al	so maintain a continuous repository of current objectives,	entire curricula, texts,
33	and all other mate	erials used in any health and safety program as follows:	
34	<u>(1)</u>	The current objectives, entire curricula, texts, and all o	other materials used in
35		any health and safety program shall be maintained at	a central location for
36		in-person review by parents and the public upon reques	<u>st.</u>
37	<u>(2)</u>	Electronic copies of the current objectives, and names	of curricula, texts, or
38		any other materials used in any health and safety prog	ram shall be posted to
39		the local school administrative unit's Web site for review	ew by parents and the
40		public. The Web site shall also include the curricula	, texts, and any other
41		materials used in the health and safety program, in	cluding links to any
42		materials available on the publisher's Web site.	
43	<u>(3)</u>	The local board of education shall add to the central le	ocation and electronic
44		repository any objectives, curricula, texts, and other	materials that may be
45		proposed for adoption, amendment, or modification to	the health and safety
46		program, and shall clearly indicate that status while the	ne materials are under
47		consideration.	
48		school year, at least 14 days before students participate	•
49	1 0	board of education shall give both written and electronic	-
50		ting in that program of the right of parents to review the	• •
51	materials, and en	tire curriculum of that program in the program reposite	ory maintained by the

General Assembly Of North Carolina Session 2019 1 local board of education, as provided in subsection (b) of this section. The notice shall include 2 the same information provided under G.S. 115C-102.35(c). The notice shall also inform parents 3 of the local board's policy for participation in reproductive health and safety programs, as 4 established in G.S. 115C-81.30(c), when applicable, and provide a form that allows parents to 5 exercise parental rights under that policy. 6 "§ 115C-102.55. Right to purchase; disposal of textbooks and materials. 7 Any parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may purchase any instructional (a) 8 material needed for any student in the public schools of the State from the board of education of 9 the local school administrative unit in which the child is enrolled. 10 Notwithstanding Article 3A of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, G.S. 143-49(4), (b) 11 or any other provision of law, a local board of education may dispose of discontinued instructional or supplemental materials. 12 13 "§ 115C-102.60. Local community media advisory committee. 14 A local board of education shall establish a local community media advisory (a) 15 committee to investigate and evaluate challenges from parents, teachers, and members of the 16 public to instructional materials and supplemental materials on the grounds that they are unfit 17 materials. 18 (b) The local committee shall, at a minimum, include the following: 19 A principal from a high school, middle school, and elementary school, (1)20 respectively. 21 (2)A teacher from a high school, middle school, and elementary school, 22 respectively. 23 A parent of a student in high school, middle school, and elementary school, (3)24 respectively. 25 Individuals challenging unfit materials shall make challenges in writing to the local (c) 26 board of education and shall specify whether the materials are being challenged on the grounds 27 of being educationally unsuitable, pervasively vulgar, or inappropriate to the age, maturity, or 28 grade level of the students. 29 Within two weeks of the filing of the challenge, the local committee shall hold a (d) 30 hearing and provide the challengers an opportunity to present their concerns to the local 31 committee. The local committee may, in the local committee's discretion, request additional 32 information at the hearing from experts on the subject matter employed by the local school 33 administrative unit. Within two weeks of the hearing, the local committee shall make a 34 recommendation to the local board of education on whether the challenge has merit and whether 35 the challenged material should be retained or removed as an unfit material. The local committee's 36 determination shall be limited to considerations of whether the material is unfit on the specific 37 grounds of the material being educationally unsuitable, pervasively vulgar, or inappropriate to 38 the age, maturity, or grade level of the students. 39 At the next meeting of the local board of education after the local committee's (e) 40 recommendation is received, the local board shall determine whether the challenge has merit and 41 whether the challenged material should be retained or removed as unfit material. 42 If the local board of education determines that the challenged material shall be (f) 43 retained, a challenger may appeal the local board's decision to the State Community Media 44 Advisory Committee. The challenger must make the appeal in the form and manner designated by the State Board of Education within two weeks of the local board's decision. 45 46 "§ 115C-102.65. State Community Media Advisory Committee. 47 The State Board of Education shall establish a State Community Media Advisory (a) 48 Committee to review challenges to instructional and supplemental materials appealed under 49 G.S. 115C-102.55. 50 The State Committee shall, at a minimum, include the following: (b) The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or designee. 51 (1)

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	(2) One superintendent of a local school administrative unit	it.
	(3) A principal from a high school, middle school, an	d elementary school
	respectively.	
	(4) A teacher from a high school, middle school, an	d elementary school
	respectively.	•
	(5) <u>A parent of a student in high school, middle school, a</u>	nd elementary school
	respectively.	
<u>(c)</u>	A member of the State Committee may be recused from any	challenge to material
	local school administrative unit in which the member is emp	
member's child is enrolled.		
(d) The State Board of Education shall designate the form and manner for appeals to be		
	State Committee. Upon receipt of an appeal, notice and a copy	
	the local board of education.	/ ····································
*	Within four weeks of the filing of the appeal, the State Commit	tee shall hold a hearing
	the appellants an opportunity to present concerns to the State	
-	bard of education an opportunity to rebut those concerns. The	
	Committee's discretion, request additional information at the h	
	matter employed by the State Board of Education. Within two	
•	ommittee shall make a recommendation to the State Board of	
	ed challenge has merit and whether the challenged material	
	unfit material. The State Committee's determination shall be lir	
	the material is unfit on the specific grounds of the materia	
	pervasively vulgar, or inappropriate to the age, maturity,	
students.	pervasivery vurgar, or mappropriate to the age, maturity,	of grade level of th
	At the next meeting of the State Board of Education after	the State Committee
	lation is received, the State Board shall determine whether the a	
	whether the challenged material should be retained or removed a	
	l of Education determines that challenged material shall be rer	
	n shall remove the material. The decision of the State Board of	
	ct to appeal by the local board of education or challenger."	Education is final, an
	SECTION 3.(a) G.S. 115C-11(d) reads as rewritten:	n voting on toythoo
. ,	Voting. $-$ No voting by proxy shall be permitted. Except i	0
-	$\frac{A}{A}$ majority of those present and voting shall be necessary to	•
	e shall be had on each motion. A record of all such votes shall	i be kept in the minut
book."	SECTION 2 (b) $C = 0.115C + 11(-)$ is manually 1	
	SECTION 3.(b) G.S. 115C-11(e) is repealed.	
	SECTION 3.(c) G.S. 115C-12(9)b. is repealed.	
	SECTION 3.(d) G.S. 115C-12(9c)c. reads as rewritten:	. ,
	"c. The Board also shall develop and implement a	0 01
	align State programs and support materials with	
	content standards for each core academic are	-
	Alignment shall include revising textbook crite	
	State tests, teacher and school administrator pre	
	professional development programs to be con	-
	standards. The Board shall develop and make av	
	parents support materials, including teacher a	1 0
	academic content standards. The State Board of	
	in collaboration with the Board of Governors	-
	North Carolina to ensure that teacher and school programs, ongoing professional development,	-

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1	activity in the State's public schools align with the State Board's
2	priorities."
3	SECTION 3.(e) G.S. 115C-12(18)d. reads as rewritten:
4	"d. The State Board of Education shall modify the Uniform Education
5	Reporting System to provide clear, accurate, and standard information
6	on the use of funds at the unit and school level. The plan shall provide
7 8	information that will enable the General Assembly to determine State,
8 9	local, and federal expenditures for personnel at the unit and school level. The plan also shall allow the tracking of expenditures for
10	textbooks, instructional materials, educational supplies and
11	equipment, capital outlay, at-risk students, and other purposes."
12	SECTION 3.(f) G.S. 115C-47(6) reads as rewritten:
13	"(6) To Regulate Fees, Charges and Solicitations. – Local boards of education shall
14	adopt rules and regulations governing solicitations of, sales to, and
15	fund-raising activities conducted by, the students and faculty members in
16	schools under their jurisdiction, and no fees, charges, or costs shall be
17	collected from students and school personnel without approval of the board of
18	education as recorded in the minutes of said board; provided, this subdivision
19	shall not apply to such textbooks fees as are determined and established by the
20	State Board of Education. board. All schedules of fees, charges and
21	solicitations approved by local boards of education shall be reported to the
22 23	Superintendent of Public Instruction." SECTION 3 (a) C S 115C 47(33) reads as rewritten:
23 24	SECTION 3.(g) G.S. 115C-47(33) reads as rewritten: "(33) <u>To Approve and Use Supplemental Materials.</u> – Local boards of education
25	shall have sole authority to select and procure supplementary instructional
26	<u>supplemental</u> materials, whether or not the materials contain commercial
27	advertising, pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-98(b).Part 3C of Article
28	8 of this Chapter."
29	SECTION 3.(h) G.S. 115C-47(33a) reads as rewritten:
30	"(33a) To Approve and Use Textbooks Not Adopted by State Board of Education.
31	Instructional Materials Local boards of education shall have the sole
32	authority to select, procure, and use textbooks not adopted by the State Board
33	of Education instructional materials as provided in G.S. 115C 98(b1). Part 3C
34 35	of Article 8 of this Chapter."
33 36	 SECTION 3.(i) G.S. 115C-75.10(c) reads as rewritten: "(c) Funding Memorandum of Understanding. – The IS operator, in consultation with the
37	ISD Superintendent, may enter into a funding memorandum of understanding with the local
38	board of education of the local school administrative unit where the innovative school is located
39	for all student support and operational services and instructional services to be provided by the
40	local board of education in the same manner and degree as in the prior school year or funding in
41	an amount equivalent to the amount the local board of education would have expended on those
42	services if provided. For the purposes of this subsection, student support and operational services
43	include cafeteria services, custodial services, broadband and utilities, and student information
44	services, and instructional services include alternative education, special education services, test
45	administration services, textbooks, instructional materials, technology, media resources,
46	instructional equipment, and other resources. The IS operator and local board of education shall
47 48	finalize the funding memorandum of understanding within 30 days of the initial request for the memorandum by the IS operator. If the parties have not completed the funding memorandum of
48 49	memorandum by the IS operator. If the parties have not completed the funding memorandum of understanding within 30 days, the State Board of Education shall resolve any issues in dispute."
49 50	SECTION 3.(j) G.S. 115C-81.5(b)(3) is repealed.
50 51	SECTION 3.(k) G.S. 115C-81.25(b)(3) is repealed.
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General Assembly Of North Carolina Session 2019 1 **SECTION 3.**(*l*) G.S. 115C-81.25(d) reads as rewritten: 2 "(d) Parental Review. - The State Board of Education shall make available to all local 3 school administrative units for review by the parents and legal guardians of students enrolled at 4 those units any State-developed objectives for instruction any approved textbooks, the list of 5 reviewed materials, and any other State-developed or approved materials that pertain to or are 6 intended to impart information or promote discussion or understanding in regard to the 7 prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to the avoidance of 8 out-of-wedlock pregnancy, or to the reproductive health and safety education curriculum. The 9 review period shall extend for at least 60 days before use." 10 SECTION 3.(m) G.S. 115C-242(3) reads as rewritten: 11 The board of education of any local school administrative unit may operate "(3) the school buses of such unit one day prior to the opening of the regular school 12 13 term for the transportation of pupils and employees to and from the school to which such pupils are assigned or in which they are enrolled and such 14 employees are employed, for the purposes of the registration of students, the 15 organization of classes, the distribution of textbooks, instructional materials, 16 17 and such other purposes as will, in the opinion of the superintendent of the schools of such unit, promote the efficient organization and operation of such 18 19 public schools." 20 **SECTION 3.(n)** G.S. 115C-271(d)(2) reads as rewritten: 21 Local funds appropriated for teachers, textbooks, instructional materials, or "(2) 22 classroom materials, supplies, and equipment are not transferred or used for 23 this purpose." 24 **SECTION 3.(o)** G.S. 115C-384(c) reads as rewritten: 25 Rental Fees for Textbooks-Instructional Materials Prohibited; Damage Fees "(c) 26 Authorized. - No rental fees are permitted for the use of textbooks, instructional materials, but damage fees may be collected pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-100.G.S. 115C-102.45." 27 28 **SECTION 3.(p)** G.S. 115C-390.2(*l*)(1) reads as rewritten: 29 The opportunity to take textbooks-instructional materials and school-furnished "(1) 30 digital devices home for the duration of the absence." 31 **SECTION 3.(q)** G.S. 115C-390.5(c)(1) reads as rewritten: 32 The opportunity to take textbooks instructional materials home for the "(1) 33 duration of the suspension." 34 SECTION 3.(r) G.S. 115C-398 reads as rewritten: 35 "§ 115C-398. Damage to school buildings, furnishings, textbooks. 36 Students and their parents or legal guardians may be liable for damage to school buildings, 37 furnishings and textbooks-instructional materials pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 115C-523, 38 115C-100 and 14-132." 39 SECTION 3.(s) G.S. 143A-48 is repealed. 40 **SECTION 3.(t)** G.S. 143C-9-7(b) reads as rewritten: 41 Upon appropriation by the General Assembly, funds received in the Indian Gaming "(b) 42 Education Revenue Fund shall be allocated quarterly by the State Board of Education to local 43 school administrative units, charter schools, and regional schools on the basis of allotted average 44 daily membership. The funds allotted by the State Board of Education pursuant to this section shall be nonreverting. Funds received pursuant to this section by local school administrative units 45 46 shall be expended for classroom teachers, teacher assistants, classroom materials or supplies, or 47 textbooks.instructional materials." 48 SECTION 4.(a) Effective July 1, 2019, the existing Textbooks and Digital 49 Resources funding allotment in the State Public School Fund shall be designated as the Instructional Materials funding allotment in the State Public School Fund. The State Board of 50 Education shall establish the purposes for which the funds within the new Instructional Materials 51

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1 funding allotment may be used for as follows: (i) to acquire instructional or supplemental 2 materials as defined in G.S. 115C-102.20, as enacted by this act, and (ii) to acquire hardware, 3 software, or other equipment necessary for the use of the instructional or supplemental materials. 4

- **SECTION 4.(b)** G.S. 115C-105.25(b)(12) reads as rewritten:
- 5 "(12) Funds allotted for textbooks and digital resources instructional materials may 6 only be used for the purchase of textbooks and digital resources. instructional 7 and supplemental materials, as defined in G.S. 115C-102.20, and to acquire 8 hardware, software, or other equipment necessary for the use of the 9 instructional or supplemental materials. These funds shall not be transferred 10 out of the allotment for any other purpose."
 - **SECTION 5.** G.S. 115C-81.30(c) reads as rewritten:

12 Parental Review and Consent. - Each school year, before students may participate in "(c) 13 any portion of (i) a program that pertains to or is intended to impart information or promote 14 discussion or understanding in regard to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, 15 including HIV/AIDS, or to the avoidance of out-of-wedlock pregnancy or (ii) a reproductive 16 health and safety education program, whether developed by the State or by the local board of 17 education, the parents and legal guardians of those students shall be given an opportunity to 18 review the objectives and materials in the instructional materials repository, as provided in 19 G.S. 115C-81.25(d). G.S. 115C-102.50. Local boards of education shall adopt policies to provide 20 opportunities either for parents and legal guardians to consent or for parents and legal guardians 21 to withhold their consent to the students' participation in any or all of these programs."

22 **SECTION 6.** The State Board of Education shall not enter into any new contracts 23 for textbooks or instructional materials and shall not renew any existing contracts for textbooks 24 or instructional materials. The State Board of Education shall make available for purchase any 25 textbooks or instructional materials available through existing contracts to local boards of 26 education.

27 SECTION 7. Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-102.25, as enacted by this act, a local 28 board of education may, by resolution, continue use of previously adopted State textbooks for a 29 standard course of study until that standard course of study is revised by the State Board of 30 Education.

31 **SECTION 8.** No local board of education shall be required to hold a public hearing 32 for any health and safety program, as defined in G.S. 115C-102.20, as enacted by this act, in use 33 prior to the 2018-2019 school year, until that program is amended, modified, or replaced. All 34 local boards of education shall establish a program repository of current health and safety 35 programs, as required by G.S. 115C-102.50, as enacted by this act, for access to parents prior to 36 the start of the 2019-2020 school year, and shall not implement any program until that program 37 is included in the repository.

38 SECTION 9. This act becomes effective July 1, 2019, and applies beginning with 39 the 2019-2020 school year.