

Senate Bill Summaries

SESSION LAW 2005-6

SB 71 – State of the State Address/Inviting Governor

Invites the Governor to address a joint session of the Senate and the House of Representatives and schedules the joint session for February 21, 2005.

SESSION LAW 2005-3

SB 82 – Election Contests

Amends GS 120-10 to make comprehensive changes to the manner of contesting the seat of a member of the General Assembly. Enacts new GS 163-182.13A to establish similar procedure for contesting elections for Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Labor, and Commissioner of Insurance.

SESSION LAW 2005-2

SB 133 – Reconfirming Provisional Voting

Restates and reconfirms the intent of the General Assembly related to provisional voting in the 2004 election. Also requires the State Board of Elections to make recommendations to General Assembly on the future administration of provisional voting by April 15, 2005.

SESSION LAW 2005-246

SB 191 – Continue Budget Authority

Authorizes the Director of the Budget to continue expenditures for the operation of government until August 11, 2005, at the level in effect on June 30, 2005.

SESSION LAW 2005-309

SB 289 – Chatham School Elections (Local)

Changes the election of the Chatham County Board of Education from the primary to the general election.

SESSION LAW 2005-80

SB 368 – Franklin School Elections Nonpartisan (Local)

Changes the election of the Franklin County Board of Education from partisan to nonpartisan.

SESSION LAW 2005-271

SB 408 – Study Ways to Reduce Dropout Rate

Directs the State Board of Education to identify research-based methods to reduce the dropout rate and the number of suspended students. Directs the SBE to report findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by January 2006.

SESSION LAW 2005-18

SJR 426 – Confirm Howard N. Lee to Utilities Commission

Provides for the appointment of Howard N. Lee to the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

SESSION LAW 2005-193

SB 566 – Facilitate Community Colleges Learn and Earn Program

Amends GS 115D-5(b) to extend community college tuition waivers to students in early college and middle college high school programs.

SESSION LAW 2005-456

SB 612 – Amend Lobbying Laws

Amends the lobbying laws of North Carolina by increasing the information required to be reported on lobbying activities without limiting expenditures; by requiring monthly reporting of legislative lobbying during sessions of the General Assembly and quarterly thereafter; by establishing a waiting period before certain state officers may lobby; by barring lobbyists from certain appointments and other activities; by requiring registration and quarterly reporting of lobbying activities of executive branch officers; and by creating a No Gifts registry.

SESSION LAW 2005-276

SB 622 – 2005 Appropriations Act (The 2005 Budget Bill)

Provisions affecting public schools are summarized in the preceding section of this 2005 Report on Education Legislation.

SESSION LAW 2005-195

SB 630 – Residential Schools Like Other Public Schools

Amends GS 143B-146.4 governing residential schools to make their accountability system and their school improvement plans like those of other public schools, and makes other technical or conforming changes.

SESSION LAW 2005-151

SB 821 – Permissible School Bus Routes Modified

Amends GS 115C-246(b) to permit school buses to be routed on municipal streets or other streets with publicly dedicated right-of-way. Also clarifies that the local board of education is not responsible for damage to the roadway where school buses are routed.

SESSION LAW 2005-253

SB 961 – Child Nutrition Standards

Creates new GS 115C-264.2 and establishes statewide standards for vending products sold during the school day, as recommended by the Study Committee for Childhood Overweight/Obesity of the Health and Wellness Trust Fund. Requires that snack vending in all schools meet the Proficient Level of the NC Eat Smart Nutrition Standards by the 2006-07 school year, so that no snack vending is available in elementary schools and that 75% of snack vending products available to middle and high school students have no more than 200 calories per package. Applies to contracts for vending services executed or renewed on or after August 1, 2005.

Senate Bill Summaries

SESSION LAW 2005-423

SB 1029 – Clarify/Enhance Domestic Violence and Tenancy Laws (Section 1(c))

Requires that the sheriff promptly deliver a copy of an order requiring that the defendant stay away from a child's school to the school's principal or to the assistant principal or principal's designee in the principal's absence.

SESSION LAW 2005-445

SB 1117 – 2005 Military Support Act

Has several provisions affecting public schools, including the following:

- Requires DPI to study the feasibility of designating a liaison to the military bases in NC to facilitate communication between DPI and military families and report results to the 2006 session of the 2005 General Assembly.
- Requires that the State Board of Education review transfer credit policies to ensure that students, especially children of Armed Forces members, receive credit for courses taken outside NC, and report review results and policy modifications to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 15, 2005.
- Provides that the child of an active duty member of the military stationed in NC need not satisfy the residency requirements of the NC School of Science and Mathematics, effective beginning with the 2005-06 academic year.

SESSION LAW 2005-321

SB 1124 – Breach Confidential Files/School Board Employees

Enacts new GS 115C-321(c) and (d) to make it a Class 3 misdemeanor for a public employee to knowingly, willfully, and with malice give an individual access to the personnel file of a local school board employee or for a person to knowingly and willfully examine or obtain copies of that file, except as specifically authorized in GS 115C-321. Provides a fine of up to \$500 for violation of this section.

CHAPTERED RESOLUTION 2005-51

SJR 1180 – Joint Session/Superintendent of Public Instruction

Provides for a joint session of the House of Representatives and the Senate to determine the contested election for Superintendent of Public Instruction on Tuesday, August 23, 2005, immediately upon adjournment of the joint session to confirm the Governor's appointments to the State Board of Education.

CHAPTERED RESOLUTION 2005-58

SJR 1184 – Adjournment Resolution

Provides that the 2005 General Assembly will adjourn on the date the adjournment resolution is ratified (which was September 2, 2005) and will reconvene for the 2006 short session on May 9, 2006 at noon. Also enumerates matters that may be considered during the 2006 Regular Session and provides that the Speaker or the President Pro Tem. may authorize committees or subcommittees of their respective houses to meet during the period between sessions to review matters concerning the 2005-07 State budget, prepare reports, or consider any other matters that the Speaker or the President Pro Tem. deems appropriate, but prohibits those committees from considering any bill or proposed committee substitute for a bill that originated in the other house. Also authorizes conference committees to meet during the period between sessions upon approval of the Speaker or the President Pro Tem.

