



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

April 29, 2016

A new legislative short session began this week, and state lawmakers are hitting the ground running. Legislators filed a flurry of bills, some of which impact public schools as listed below in the section, “Relevant Bills with Action this Week.” This Legislative Update will be rolling out nearly every Friday during session to offer the week’s big education news from Jones Street.

The main event this week was the unveiling of Governor Pat McCrory’s *recommended* budget for the upcoming fiscal year. This budget is one of three proposals (i.e., Governor’s, House’s, Senate’s) that will be introduced, debated, and ultimately the final 2016 Budget will be enacted. It is important to bear in mind a couple of things with this recommended budget: 1) it is only a recommendation; therefore, it is a starting point or guidepost for legislators to begin their work on the adjustments to the budget here in the second year of the 2015-2016 Biennium, and 2) the legislators’ work ahead is to make adjustments to the 2015 enacted budget, for the 2016-2017 year.

Key education highlights from the [Governor’s recommended budget](#) are as follows:

Budget Line Item <i>(not an exhaustive list)</i>	Adjustment/Increase
1. Student enrollment growth (total enrollment projected at 1,543,518 students)	\$48.9 million
2. Salary & step increases for teachers and instructional support	\$259.3 million
3. Step increase for principals and assistant principals	\$3.6 million
4. Bonuses for teachers, instructional support, and all other certified school employees	\$166 million
5. Bonuses for principals and assistant principals to be allocated at district’s or charter’s discretion	\$9.6 million
6. Bonuses for all other non-certified school employees	\$35.3 million
7. Increase in retirement contribution from 15.32% to 15.67%	\$20 million
8. Increase funding for K-12 Special Education scholarships	\$5.8 million
9. New Math and Science Teacher Recruitment Program (scholarship)	\$2 million

Relevant Bills with Action This Week:

[HB 945](#) Unemployment Insurance Technical Changes

- Referred to House Committee on Finance
- Companion bill: SB 725 (Passed in Senate)

[HB 946](#) ([SB 783](#)) Repeal HB2/Fund Human Relations Commission

- Referred to House Committee on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Education – K-12

[HB 955](#) Changes Special Ed./Opportunity Scholarships

- Referred to House Committee on Appropriations

[HB 956](#) Henderson County/Community College Projects

- Referred to House Committee on Education - Community Colleges

[HB 960](#) Retirement Creditable Service Charter Schools

- Referred to House Committee on Pensions and Retirement

[HB 969](#) ([SB 742](#)) Opportunity Scholarship Military Child Eligibility

- Referred to House Committee on Education – K-12, if favorable House Appropriations

[HB 975](#) ([SB 747](#)) State-Owned Real Property Management/PED

- Referred to House Committee on Regulatory Reform

[HB 976](#) ([SB 789](#)) Enhance Oversight of Service Contracts/PED

- Referred to House Committee on Regulatory Reform

[HB 994](#) Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Update

- Referred to House Committee on Finance

[HB 999](#) ([SB 736](#)) Study Suicide Prevention

- Referred to House Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations

[HB 1014](#) NC-PreK Conforming Change

[SB 726](#) ([HB973](#)) Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Update

- Passed in the Senate

[SB 727](#) Moore County Local Sales Tax Use Restriction

- Referred to Senate Committee on State and Local Government

[SB 728](#) Lottery - JLOC Recommendations

- Referred to Senate Committee on Finance

[SB 729 \(H974\)](#) Various Changes to the Revenue Laws

- Passed in the Senate

[SB 738](#) Study Apprenticeship Incentives

- Referred to Senate Committee on Rules and Operations

[SB 740](#) Collaboration of State Agencies/Early Education

- Referred to Senate Committee on Education/Higher Education; If favorable, re-ref to Senate Committee on Health Care

[SB 753](#) Reenact School Sales Tax Holiday

- Referred to Senate Committee on Finance

[SB 756](#) Restoration of Funds to Richmond County

- Referred to Senate Appropriations/Base Budget

[SB 759](#) Funds/Youth Tobacco Use Prevention

- Referred to Senate Appropriations/Base Budget

[SB 773](#) Reenact Child Care Tax Credit

- Referred to Senate Committee on Finance

[SB 776](#) Appropriations Act of 2016

- Referred to Senate Appropriations/Base Budget

[SB 782 \(HB 966\)](#) Revise Employee Insurance Committee Requirements

- Referred to Senate Committee on Insurance

[SB 786](#) Appropriations Act of 2016

[SB 792](#) State IT Contracts/Contractor Liability

[SB 796 \(HB 1012\)](#) Study Allocation of CC Subsidies/Waitlist

[SB 797 \(HB 1013\)](#) Study Alignment of CC Services Applications

Committee Meetings/Session: May 2-5

Monday, May 2:

- 3:00 PM House Session
- 7:00 PM Senate Session

Tuesday, May 3:

- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Transportation, 1228 LB
- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Education, 423 LOB
- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, General Government, 425 LOB
- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Health and Human Service, 643 LOB
- 9:00 AM House Finance, 544 LOB
- 11:00 AM Senate Health Care, 544 LOB
 - Study Suicide Prevention (S736)
- 3:00 PM Senate Select Committee on Nominations, 1027 LB

Wednesday, May 4:

- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Education, 423 LOB
- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Health and Human Service, 643 LOB

Thursday, May 5:

- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Education, 423 LOB
- 8:30 AM House Appropriations, Health and Human Service, 643 LOB

DPI/SBE Presentations to General Assembly Interim Committees in 2016:

(See our [Legislative Webpage](#) for more information)

[School Bus Safety](#)

[NCDPI Career & Technical Education Overview](#)

[Work Experience Credit/Licensure](#)

[Building and Infrastructure Needs](#)

[Cooperative Innovative High School Programs in North Carolina](#)

[NC Driver Education](#)

[North Carolina Early Learning Programs: Sustaining Impact](#)

[Transforming Lowest Achieving Districts and Schools](#)

[Read to Achieve Update](#)

[School-Based Administrators' Salary Structure](#)

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