

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 746*

Short Title: Schools for Deaf Standards Funds.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Green; Barnhill, Bowman, J. Brown, Cole, Cummings, Cunningham, Fitch, Flaherty, Fussell, Hall, Joye, Luebke, Mavretic, Nichols, Russell, Smith, Stewart, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Appropriations.

April 6, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO BRING THE NORTH CAROLINA
3 SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF UP TO THE MINIMUM STANDARDS OUTLINED
4 BY THE BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM AND THE PRESIDENTIAL
5 COMMISSION ON EDUCATION FOR THE DEAF.

6 Whereas, the 1973 reorganization of State government eliminated the board
7 of regents and left the North Carolina Schools for the Deaf without any effective voice
8 to advocate for quality education programs; and

9 Whereas, the North Carolina Schools for the Deaf have not been provided
10 funding to extend elements of the Basic Education Program to their students; and

11 Whereas, the North Carolina Schools for the Deaf are not able to afford
12 extended year programs and transition programming as required by State and federal
13 law; and

14 Whereas, the emotional and mental health needs of deaf and hard of hearing
15 children have not been addressed in an adequate and appropriate manner; and

16 Whereas, North Carolina has not addressed the recommendations of the
17 Presidential Commission on Education of the Deaf; and

18 Whereas, the 1992 Task Force on Quality Assurance for the Deaf and Hard of
19 Hearing provided the Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with a
20 comprehensive cradle-to-grave plan for the deaf and hard of hearing that addresses the
21 educational needs of the deaf and hard of hearing; and

1 Whereas, two State audits and two task forces have addressed these same
2 needs over the last five years with similar conclusions and recommendations; Now,
3 therefore,

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of
6 Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Department of Human Resources, the sum
7 of three million five hundred ninety-three thousand eight hundred forty-nine dollars
8 (\$3,593,849) for the 1993-94 fiscal year and the sum of four million one hundred sixty-
9 four thousand seven hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$4,164,788) for the 1994-95 fiscal
10 year, to bring the three Schools for the Deaf up to the minimum standards required by
11 the Basic Education Program and by the 1986 Presidential Commission on Education of
12 the Deaf (COED), as recommended by the 1992 Task Force on Quality Assurance for
13 the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's report to the Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard
14 of Hearing, Department of Human Resources.

15 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1993.