

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 908
Second Edition Engrossed 5/4/95

Short Title: Character Education Required.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Eddins; Capps, McMahan, Aldridge, and Watson.

Referred to: Education.

April 12, 1995

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION IN
3 CHARACTER EDUCATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 Section 1. G.S. 115C-81 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 "(h) Character Education. – Local boards of education shall require the teaching of
7 the following character traits in the public schools:

8 (1) Courage. – Having the determination to do the right thing even when
9 others don't and the strength to follow your conscience rather than the
10 crowd; and attempting difficult things that are worthwhile.

11 (2) Good judgment. – Choosing worthy goals and setting proper priorities;
12 thinking through the consequences of your actions; and basing decisions
13 on practical wisdom and good sense.

14 (3) Integrity. – Having the inner strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and
15 honest in all things; acting justly and honorably.

16 (4) Kindness. – Being considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of
17 others; showing care, compassion, friendship, and generosity; and
18 treating others as you would like to be treated.

- 1 (5) Perseverance. – Being persistent in the pursuit of worthy objectives in
2 spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement; and exhibiting
3 patience and having the fortitude to try again when confronted with
4 delays, mistakes, or failures.
- 5 (6) Respect. – Showing high regard for authority, for other people, for self,
6 for property, and for country; and understanding that all people have
7 value as human beings.
- 8 (7) Responsibility. – Being dependable in carrying out obligations and
9 duties; showing reliability and consistency in words and conduct; being
10 accountable for your own actions; and being committed to active
11 involvement in your community.
- 12 (8) Self-Discipline. – Demonstrating hard work and commitment to
13 purpose; regulating yourself for improvement and restraining from
14 inappropriate behaviors; being in proper control of your words, actions,
15 impulses, and desires; choosing abstinence from premarital sex, drugs,
16 alcohol, and other harmful substances and behaviors; and doing your
17 best in all situations."

18 Sec. 2. This act is effective upon ratification and applies to all school years
19 beginning with the 1995-96 school year.