

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

H.B. 926
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE DRH20305-MKa-154A (03/26)

Short Title: Promoting Accelerated Student Success. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Holloway, Blackwell, Glazier, and Presnell (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS
3 IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THAT EVERY KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE
4 CLASSROOM HAS A FULL-TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT AND EVERY SECOND
5 AND THIRD GRADE CLASSROOM HAS A HALF-TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT.

6 Whereas, teacher assistants play an important supplementary role in classroom
7 instruction; and

8 Whereas, when class size was reduced during the early 2000s, the student to teacher
9 assistant ratio that the teacher assistant allotment is based upon did not change to correlate with
10 the student to teacher ratio; and

11 Whereas, recurring teacher assistant funding was cut by approximately one hundred
12 twenty-nine million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$129,900,000) in the 2014-2015 fiscal
13 year; and

14 Whereas, approximately twenty-four million eight hundred thousand dollars
15 (\$24,800,000) of teacher assistant funds was made nonrecurring in the 2014-2015 fiscal year;
16 and

17 Whereas, teacher assistants must have completed 48 hours of higher education
18 courses, obtained an associate degree, or successfully passed a rigorous assessment option to be
19 employed as a teacher assistant; and

20 Whereas, third grade students are required to read at grade level by the end of the
21 grade; Now, therefore,

22 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

23 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of
24 Public Instruction the sum of two hundred eight million three hundred ninety thousand seven
25 hundred sixty-seven dollars (\$208,390,767) for the 2015-2016 fiscal year and the sum of two
26 hundred twelve million two hundred sixty-five thousand three hundred seventy-three dollars
27 (\$212,265,373) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year to provide additional funds to local school
28 administrative units to place at least one full-time teacher assistant in every kindergarten and
29 first grade classroom and to place at least one half-time teacher assistant in every second and
30 third grade classroom.

31 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2015.



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