

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

H.B. 828
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30343-LM-91B (03/22)

Short Title: IT Changes/Libraries & Telemedicine. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Saine, Brenden Jones, and Wray (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT MAKING CHANGES RELATED TO THE PROCUREMENT OF INFORMATION
3 TECHNOLOGY GOODS AND SERVICES TO SUPPORT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
4 LIBRARIES AND PROVIDING FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE
5 SERVICES VIA TELEMEDICINE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 8.14 of S.L. 2015-241 reads as rewritten:

8 **"COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT**

9 ...

10 **"SECTION 8.14.(b)** The Department of Public Instruction shall collaborate with the
11 Friday Institute for Educational Innovation of North Carolina State University to implement
12 public school cooperative purchasing agreements for the procurement of information
13 technology goods and services to support public schools. For purposes of this section, the
14 phrase "public school cooperative purchasing agreement" means an agreement implemented
15 pursuant to this section and available for local school administrative units, regional schools,
16 charter schools, or some combination thereof, and public and private libraries and
17 regional library systems, providing for collaborative or collective purchases of information
18 technology goods and services in order to leverage economies of scale and to reduce costs.

19 **"SECTION 8.14.(c)** Each public school cooperative purchasing agreement shall be based
20 on a defined statewide information technology need to support education in the public
21 schools and public libraries. Each public school cooperative purchasing agreement
22 shall allow for equal access to technology tools and services and shall provide a standard
23 competitive cost throughout North Carolina for each tool or service. Public school cooperative
24 purchasing agreements shall follow State information technology procurement laws, rules, and
25 procedures.

26"

27 **SECTION 2.** Article 50 of Chapter 58 of the General Statutes is amended by
28 adding a new section to read as follows:

29 **"§ 58-50-305. Coverage for telemedicine services.**

30 (a) The following definitions apply in this section:

31 (1) Health benefit plan. – As defined in G.S. 58-3-167(a)(1).

32 (2) Telemedicine. – Two-way, real-time interactive communication between a
33 patient and physician or practitioner at a distant site. The term includes the
34 use of interactive telecommunications equipment that includes, at a
35 minimum, audio and video equipment.



1 (b) Every health benefit plan shall provide coverage for health care services that are
2 provided via telemedicine if the health care service would be covered were it provided through
3 in-person consultation or in-person delivery of services between an insured and a health care
4 provider. A health benefit plan may not exclude services provided via telemedicine from
5 coverage under the plan solely because the service is not provided through an in-person
6 consultation or in-person delivery of services."

7 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2017.