

FAILED



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AMENDMENT
Senate Bill 257

AMENDMENT NO. A21
(to be filled in by
Principal Clerk)

S257-ALU-33 [v.1]

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Amends Title [NO]
Fifth Edition

Date _____, 2025

Representative Hawkins

1 moves to amend the bill on page 98, lines 44 and 45,
2 by inserting between those lines, the following new section to read:

3
4 **"NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM ON-SITE CHILD CARE STUDY**

5 **SECTION 6.13.** The State Board of Community Colleges shall study and report to
6 the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee
7 on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division, no later than March 31, 2026,
8 on the feasibility and advisability of implementing a publicly available child care program on
9 every community college campus that offers priority enrollment to the children of community
10 college employees and students. The report shall include the following:

- 11 (1) Recommendations for implementing the child care program.
12 (2) Estimated costs for implementation and maintenance of the child care
13 program.
14 (3) Return on investment of the child care program.
15 (4) Issues related to historical and ongoing utilization of grants or other funding.
16 (5) Barriers to implementation of the child care program."; and
17

18 on page 202, lines 47 and 48,
19 by inserting between those lines, the following new section to read:

20
21 **"UNC ON-SITE CHILD CARE STUDY**

22 **SECTION 8.37.** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall
23 study and report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the Joint Legislative
24 Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division, no later
25 than March 31, 2026, on the feasibility and advisability of implementing a publicly available
26 child care program at each constituent institution campus that offers priority enrollment to the
27 children of university employees and students. The report shall include:

- 28 (1) Recommendations for implementing the child care program.
29 (2) Estimated costs for implementation and maintenance of the child care
30 program.
31 (3) Return on investment of the child care program.
32 (4) Issues related to historical and ongoing utilization of grants or other funding.



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(5) Barriers to implementation of the child care program."; and
on page 241, lines 6 and 7,
by inserting between those lines, the following new section to read:

"STUDY STATE OWNED STRUCTURES FOR CHILD CARE

SECTION 9D.12.(a) The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education (Division), shall study onsite child care for State employees. The study shall, at a minimum, do each of the following:

- (1) Analyze the costs to contract with a private commercial child care provider to establish child care centers for State employees' use to be established on State-owned property that is unused or underutilized.
- (2) Review prioritizing contracting to commercial child care providers who currently operate five or fewer facilities and provide high-quality child care.
- (3) Create requirements for an apprenticeship program that pairs child care centers with a university or community college early education program utilizing parameters similar to the Durham Childcare Apprenticeship Program.
- (3) Review and develop contract terms, which shall include each of the following when developing a contract for a commercial child care provider:
 - a. The child care facility must operate an apprenticeship program in conjunction with a public or private university or community college who operates an early child care education program.
 - b. The child care center must comply with the requirements established by the Division of Child Development and Early Education for the apprenticeship program.
 - c. The child care center must maintain the operation of the apprenticeship program for so long as the child care center is housed in State-owned property and the university or community college is willing to continue the partnership.
 - d. The State will provide the upfit cost of the space to meet the licensure requirements at reasonable levels that are customary at the operators' other facilities and those similarly situated and provide use of the space rent free, notwithstanding the provisions of G.S. 146-29.1.
 - e. The lease terms for State-owned property must be approved as required by G.S. 146-27.

SECTION 9D.12.(b) By April 1, 2027, the Division of Child Development and Early Education shall report on and make recommendations to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government, and the Fiscal Research Division the study required in subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 9D.12.(c) The Division of Child Development and Early Education shall study the provision of grants to counties to establish third-shift child care for first responders,

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1 with priority to be given to third-shift facilities operated in unused or underutilized county-owned
2 buildings. By April 1, 2027, the Division shall report on and make recommendations to the Joint
3 Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight
4 Committee on General Government, and the Fiscal Research Division regarding the study.

5 **SECTION 9D.12.(d)** The Division of Child Development and Early Education shall
6 establish the Commercial Child Care Licensure Workgroup to examine streamlining
7 requirements related to the physical structure of commercial child care centers. The workgroup
8 shall consist of one representative from each of the following to be chosen by the North Carolina
9 Child Care Commission:

- 10 (1) The Division of Child Development and Early Education.
- 11 (2) The Office of the State Fire Marshal.
- 12 (3) The Department of Insurance.
- 13 (4) The North Carolina Building Code Council.
- 14 (5) The Division of Public Health.
- 15 (6) The League of Municipalities.
- 16 (7) The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.

17 The North Carolina Child Care Commission shall also appoint two commissioners to
18 the workgroup who shall also serve as cochairs of the workgroup.

19 **SECTION 9D.12.(e)** The workgroup established in subsection (d) of this section
20 shall develop findings and recommendations related to at least the following:

- 21 (1) Streamlining the licensing requirements related to the physical facilities
22 related to commercial child care facilities, including building codes, fire
23 codes, and sanitation codes.
- 24 (2) Developing statewide, uniform application of the commercial child care
25 licensing requirements related to the physical facility, including building
26 codes, fire codes, and sanitation codes and statewide, uniform inspections
27 related to those codes.
- 28 (3) Resolving conflicts between various code requirements for commercial child
29 care licensing.

30 By January 1, 2026, the Division of Child Development and Early Education shall
31 report the findings and recommendations of the workgroup to the Joint Legislative Oversight
32 Committee on Health and Human Services, the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
33 General Government, and the Fiscal Research Division.

34 **SECTION 9D.12.(f)** The Department of Administration shall report to the Joint
35 Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Legislative
36 Commission on Governmental Operations, no later than March 31, 2026, on the feasibility and
37 advisability of using obsolete or underutilized State-owned buildings (available buildings) to
38 house child care facilities giving child care priority to State employees. The report shall include
39 the following:

- 40 (1) Location of each available building.
- 41 (2) Estimated costs for upfitting each property to meet daycare licensing
42 standards.
- 43 (3) Estimated costs for asbestos and lead remediation.

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1 (4) Barriers to the available buildings' use as a child care facility."; and
2
3 by adjusting the appropriate totals accordingly.

SIGNED _____
Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED _____
Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED _____ FAILED _____ TABLED _____

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and vote information, is available in the
House Principal Clerk's Office**