



# HOUSE BILL 13: Class Size Requirement Changes.

2017-2018 General Assembly

|                       |  |                     |                  |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Committee:</b>     | House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations | <b>Date:</b>        | February 7, 2017 |
| <b>Introduced by:</b> | Reps. McGrady, Elmore, Malone, Corbin                            | <b>Prepared by:</b> | Kara McCraw      |
| <b>Analysis of:</b>   | First Edition  |                     | Staff Attorney   |

**OVERVIEW:** House Bill 13 would change the allowable average and individual class sizes permitted under the statute establishing maximum class sizes for kindergarten through third grade.

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 115C-301(c) establishes maximum class sizes for kindergarten through third grade by requiring that the average class size for kindergarten through third grade cannot exceed the funded allotment ratio of teachers to students in those grades. At the end of the second school month and for the remainder of the school year, the size of an individual class in kindergarten through third grade cannot exceed the allotment ratio by more than three students. The funded class size allotment ratios for kindergarten through third grade, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, are as follows:

- (1) For kindergarten, one teacher per 18 students.
- (2) For first grade, one teacher per 16 students.
- (3) For second grade, one teacher per 17 students.
- (4) For third grade, one teacher per 17 students.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** HB 13 would provide that the average class size for kindergarten through third grade could not exceed the funded allotment ratio of teachers to students in those grades by more than three students, and that the size of an individual class could not exceed the allotment ratio by more than six students.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

**BACKGROUND:** See reverse for Classroom Teacher Ratio Chart prepared by Fiscal Research Division.

Karen Cochrane-Brown  
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Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

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## Classroom Teacher Ratios

|   | Kindergarten             |                     |                           | 1st Grade                |                     |                           | 2nd Grade                |                     |                           | 3rd Grade                |                     |                           |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Funded Teacher Allotment | LEA Avg. Class Size | Individual Class Size Max | Funded Teacher Allotment | LEA Avg. Class Size | Individual Class Size Max | Funded Teacher Allotment | LEA Avg. Class Size | Individual Class Size Max | Funded Teacher Allotment | LEA Avg. Class Size | Individual Class Size Max |
| Current 2016-17                             | 18                       | 21                  | 24                        | 16                       | 21                  | 24                        | 17                       | 21                  | 24                        | 17                       | 21                  | 24                        |
| Effective FY 2017-18, if GA takes no action | 18                       | 18                  | 21                        | 16                       | 16                  | 19                        | 17                       | 17                  | 20                        | 17                       | 17                  | 20                        |
| HB 13                                       | 18                       | 21                  | 24                        | 16                       | 19                  | 22                        | 17                       | 20                  | 23                        | 17                       | 20                  | 23                        |