



HOUSE BILL 235: Teacher Mentor Qualifications.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Education/Higher Education.	If Date:	May 23, 2017
	favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate		
Introduced by:	Reps. Conrad, Elmore, J. Bell	Prepared by:	Brian Gwyn
Analysis of:	Third Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *The 3rd edition of House Bill 235 would:*

- *Change the minimum rating of mentor teachers from "accomplished" to "proficient"*
- *Allow retired teachers to be mentor teachers at the principal's discretion*
- *Allow teachers to be mentors at schools other than those to which they are assigned*

CURRENT LAW: Under the North Carolina Teacher Evaluation System, teachers can be rated as either developing, proficient, accomplished, or distinguished. G.S. 115C-296(e) directs the State Board of Education to establish a mentor program for new teachers and requires mentor teachers to have been rated, through formal evaluations, at least at the "accomplished" level and have met expectations for student growth.

BILL ANALYSIS: The 3rd edition of House Bill 235 would change the minimum rating of mentor teachers from "accomplished" to "proficient". The bill would also allow principals to select retired teachers as mentor teachers. Priority consideration must be given for mentor teachers rated as "distinguished" and "accomplished," but a teacher rated as "proficient" or a retired teacher may be selected if the principal finds the teacher to be the most appropriate mentor for a particular new teacher. The principal must maintain records of the reasons for such a determination. Additionally, the bill would allow teachers to be mentors at schools other than those to which they are assigned, provided that the principal of each school and the teacher approve of the assignment, the teacher is rated as accomplished, and the requesting principal maintains a record of the reasons for selecting a teacher from a different building.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to mentors selected for the 2017-2018 school year.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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