



HOUSE BILL 1096: UNC Omnibus Changes/UNC Lab School Funds.

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	June 15, 2020
Introduced by:	Reps. Fraley, Clemmons, Horn	Prepared by:	Brian Gwyn* Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	PCS to Second Edition H1096-CSBEa-41		

OVERVIEW: *The 2nd edition of HB 1096 would make various changes to statutes related to the programs and operation of The University of North Carolina and would appropriate \$500,000 for the UNC Teacher and Principal Preparation Laboratory School Program. The PCS would direct the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina to study the feasibility of offering accelerated undergraduate degree programs at constituent institutions.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would repeal the statutory requirement that the Board of Governors monitor all employee salary increases and salaries for new employees at constituent institutions and within The University of North Carolina (UNC) System Office above a certain threshold. This provision is identical to a special provision from House Bill 966.

Section 2 would makes various changes to the UNC laboratory school statutes: (i) provides for civil immunity similar to other public schools, (ii) allows for a constituent institution to operate more than one lab school, (iii) requires a school system to provide expanded transportation services and clarifies food service requirements, (iv) provides for flexibility for the term of operation of a laboratory school, (v) expands eligibility of students to attend a lab school, including allowing for more students if a school or program is not at capacity, and (vi) requires 6 schools to open by the 2020-2021 school year and 3 more schools to open by the 2022-2023 school year. Appropriates \$500,000 to support lab school operations and prohibits State funds for lab schools from being used to create new positions or hiring additional consultants at the UNC System Office. This provision is similar to a special provision from House Bill 966, except for allowing a constituent institution to operate more than one lab school.

Section 4 would change the Future Teachers of North Carolina program to a symposium-based program introducing high school students to the teaching profession administered by the Future Teachers of North Carolina Advisory Council rather than a high school-based course developed with a college partner. This provision is identical to a special provision from House Bill 966.

Section 5 would (i) provide that up to eight institutions of higher education that represent a diverse selection of institutions be selected to participate in the NC Teaching Fellows Program, (ii) make a technical change, and (iii) raise the amount of funds provided for all program participants to participate in the New Teacher Support Program and prioritizes funds for teachers serving in low-performing schools. This provision is identical to a special provision from House Bill 966.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Section 6 would allow a constituent institution to pay for certain projects for repairs and renovations from available funds if the total project costs do not exceed \$1,000,000. Constituent institutions would be required to report to the Board of Governors and the Fiscal Research Division on these projects. This provision is identical to a special provision from House Bill 966.

Section 7 would remove North Carolina School for the Arts, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, and UNC laboratory schools from the definition of public school unit in Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.

Section 8 would exempt commissioned police officers of UNC from the NC Human Resources Act, except the Articles on Equal Employment and Compensation Opportunity; Assisting in Obtaining State Employment, Privacy of State Employee Personnel Records, and Employee Appeals of Grievances and Disciplinary Action.

Section 9 would provide that debt service fees would not be included in the calculation of the cap on undergraduate student fees for an academic year.

Section 10 would allow an affiliated institution of UNC to have real property designated as a "Millennial Campus" of the institution under Article 21B of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes.

Section 11 would make the North Carolina Arboretum plate a special registration plate.

Section 12 would require the Board of Governors of UNC to study the feasibility of offering accelerated undergraduate degree programs at constituent institutions. The Board of Governors would be required to report on its findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1, 2021.

Section 13 would repeal identical sections in House Bill 966 that are also contained in this bill if it were to become law and clarify that the provisions of this bill control.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, the PCS would be effective when it became law.

**Leslie Karkanawi, staff attorney in the Bill Drafting Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*