



HOUSE BILL 668: Various Higher Education Changes.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 29, 2019
Introduced by:	Rep. Fraley	Prepared by:	Samantha Yarborough Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Second Edition		

OVERVIEW: *HB 668 would make various changes to laws related to community colleges and The University of North Carolina.*

CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS:

PART I: North Carolina Community Colleges System

Section 1.1(a)-(c) and (e): The State Board of Community Colleges is required to report annually on tuition waivers, the Customized Training Program, certain capital projects for constitution institutions, and the voluntary shared leave program.

Section 1.1(a)-(c) and (e) would change the reporting entity for these reports from the State Board of Community Colleges to the Community Colleges System Office, and specify September 1 as the date for the Customized Training Program report to be submitted.

Section 1.1(d): The Apprenticeship Council is required to report annually on its activities to several committees at the General Assembly focused on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources.

Section 1.1(d) directs the Apprenticeship Council report to instead come to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees on Education.

Section 1.2: G.S. 115D-58.10 requires the State Board of Community Colleges to determine which State and community college employees must give bonds for the protection of State funds and property, and authorizes the State Board to place the bonds and pay the premiums from State funds. The statute also requires boards of trustees of community colleges to bond all employees permitted to draw on local funds or handle institutional funds or property.

Section 1.2 would allow the State Board of Education and local boards of trustees to determine and use adequate insurance coverage in place of bonds for employees handling institutional funds and property.

Section 1.3. The 2017 and 2018 budgets (SL 2017-57 and SL 2018-5) authorized the President of the Community Colleges System Office to reorganize the System Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State Board of Community Colleges. Any such reorganization was required to be reported annually to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, Fiscal Research Division, and the House and Senate Appropriation subcommittees on Education.

Section 1.3 would codify the President's authority to reorganize the System Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State Board of Community Colleges. This section would require reports on such reorganizations to be reported by June 30 of the fiscal years in which the reorganizations occur to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly.

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Director



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This section would become effective July 1, 2019.

Part II: University of North Carolina System

Sec. 2.3: Currently, Future Teachers of North Carolina (FTNC) provides the curricula and professional development for high school courses on the profession of teaching, including field experiences for high school students. 3 constituent institutions are designated to collaborate on FTNC. All high schools are encouraged to offer FTNC courses in partnership with an institution of higher education, and students who complete the courses with a B or higher earn dual credit from a constituent institution partner.

Sec. 2.3 would eliminate the current FTNC program, and replace it with an annual symposium for high school juniors and seniors that is selective and application based. The FTNC symposium would be administered by the UNC System Office in coordination with a FTNC Council selected by the UNC President. The System Office would annually report on participations and demographic information, a description of the event, and student survey responses following the symposium.

Sec. 2.4: The UNC Board of Governors Planning Task Force is required to conduct a systemwide analysis of the capital needs of constituent institutions for STEM. The Task Force was appropriated \$3 million to use in conducting the analysis. The Task Force was to report on the UNC System Plan to the Joint Legislative Capital Improvements Oversight Committee and Fiscal Research Division by April 1, 2019.

Sec. 2.4 would require the Task Force to submit an initial report by April 1, 2019, and a final report by February 1, 2020. It would also allow the funds that are not otherwise encumbered to not revert and remain available through the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

This section would become effective June 30, 2019.

Sec. 2.5 would allow funds appropriated for enrollment adjustments for The University of North Carolina to a reserve account to not revert but remain available until the end of the 2020-2021 fiscal year for the purposes of the buy down of financial obligations resulting from the NC Promise program at Elizabeth City State University, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Western Carolina University.

This section becomes effective June 30, 2019.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, HB 668 would become effective when it becomes law.

**Kara McCraw, Attorney with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*