



HOUSE BILL 73: Civic Responsibility Education.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	February 26, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Torbett, Lewis, Dobson, Bell	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *HB 73 would require that certain social studies courses in elementary, middle, and high school include instruction on civic responsibility as part of the standard course of study.*

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 115C-81.60 requires character education in local school administrative units as part of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Local boards of education must incorporate character education instruction in the curriculum on courage, good judgment, integrity, kindness, perseverance, respect, responsibility, and self-discipline.

Additionally, local boards of education are encouraged, but not required, to include instruction on respect for school personnel, responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship.

BILL ANALYSIS: The 2nd Edition for HB 73 would require that the four topics previously encouraged to be taught under G.S. 115C-81.60 (respect for school personnel, responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship) be included as required instruction on civic responsibility in the standard course of study for each of the three following courses:

- Elementary: North Carolina history and geography.
- Middle: North Carolina history and geography.
- High School: Founding Principles of the United States of America and the State of North Carolina.

EFFECTIVE DATE: HB 73 would become effective when it becomes law, and would apply beginning with the 2020-2021 school year.

BACKGROUND: HB 73, as originally introduced, was a recommendation of the House Select Committee on School Safety.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
(919) 733-2578