



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

SENATE BILL 123: Geo Iso Sch/Transp Eff Buff/Currituck Cty Sch.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	July 16, 2019
Introduced by:	Sen. Sanderson	Prepared by:	Samantha Yarborough and Kara McCraw, Staff Attorneys
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition S123-CSBN-34		

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 123 would require the State Board of Education to adopt rules allowing the transfer of sick leave between a charter school and local school administrative unit.

The PCS to SB 123 would remove the contents of SB 123 and instead do the following:

- Revise the geographically isolated schools formula regarding the allocation of teachers for Currituck County Schools.
- Allow an increased transportation efficiency budget rating for Currituck County Schools.

CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1: G.S. 115C-301(g1) requires the State Board of Education to allot additional classroom teachers to schools containing grades kindergarten through 12 when consolidation is not feasible due to the geographic isolation of the school. To be geographically isolated, a school must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- The school is located in a local school administrative unit in which the average daily membership is less than 1.5 per square mile.
- The school is located in a local school administrative unit for a county containing more than 150,000 acres of national forest owned by the federal government and managed by the United States Forest Service pursuant to G.S. 104-5.

Section 1 of the PCS would add a criterion for geographic isolation to G.S. 115C-301(g1). A school would be considered geographically isolated if it meets all of the following requirements:

- The school contains grades kindergarten through 5.
- The school is located in a local school administrative unit for a county containing all or a portion of at least one national wildlife refuge owned by the federal government and managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to G.S. 104-10.
- The school is only accessible to the majority of the local school administrative unit, while remaining in the local school administrative unit, by ferry.

Section 1 would be effective July 1, 2019, and apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. This section would apply only to Currituck County Schools.

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Section 2: Local school administrative units (LEAs) receive an annual transportation budget rating calculated based on an efficiency rating developed from a number of factors, including expenditures, students transported, and buses operated with adjustments for site characteristics, plus a 10% buffer. An LEA with an efficiency rating of 80% would therefore have a budget rating of 90%, meaning that State funds would cover 90% of the LEA's transportation costs. This budget rating is used to calculate the transportation allotment for that LEA.

Section 2 of SB 123 would provide that, for Currituck County Schools, the Department of Public Instruction should provide a 15% buffer, rather than 10%, in calculating the transportation budget rating for that LEA.

Section 2 would be effective July 1, 2019, and apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. This section would apply only to Currituck County Schools.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, SB 123 would become effective when it becomes law, and apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.