



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 8.17: No Financial Assistance for UNC Students Convicted of Assaulting Officers or Employees of the State

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 8.17

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Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
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Section 8.17 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) eliminates certain financial benefits for students at institutions of higher education in the State who are convicted of assaulting an officer or employee of the State or an officer or employee of any political subdivision of the State while enrolled as a student.

The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina (BOG) must adopt a policy prohibiting The University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions from providing State funded scholarships or grants to any student who is convicted of assaulting an officer or employee of the State or an officer or employee of any political subdivision of the State while enrolled as a student. The prohibition must begin with the semester or academic term following a conviction.

The State Education Assistance Authority must adopt a rule prohibiting any student who is convicted of assaulting an officer or employee of the State or an officer or employee of any political subdivision of the State while enrolled as a student from receiving a State-funded scholarship or grant. The prohibition must begin with the semester or academic term following a conviction.

Additionally, a student who is convicted of assaulting an officer or employee of the State or an officer or employee of any political subdivision of the State while enrolled as a student is disqualified from receiving the in-State tuition rate at any institution of higher education in the State, beginning with the semester or academic term following the conviction.

This section becomes effective December 1, 2026, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

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