



SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 8.10: Establish Office of Learning Research

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 8.10

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Section 8.10 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) codifies the Office of Learning Research (OLR) which is housed within the North Carolina Collaboratory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The purpose of OLR is to identify and evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of programs, activities, initiatives, procedures, and any other factors related to elementary and secondary education in the State.

This section also codifies that funding appropriated to the OLR must be used to do the following:

- Provide information and support needed by elementary and secondary public schools, university leaders, and elected officials to make evidence-based decisions.
- Collaborate with constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and other stakeholders to implement innovative policies and programs to accelerate learning for all students.
- Work with external research resources and partners to evaluate local, State, and federal programs to establish metrics and assess return on investment.
- Support the operations of the OLR.

This section repeals the authority of the North Carolina Collaboratory to relocate OLR within the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

This section became effective July 7, 2026.

Kara McCraw
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