



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 401: NC Farm Act of 2025-2026, Sec. 9: Allow Excused School Absences for Equestrian Competitions and Other Agricultural Events.

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-11, Sec. 9

Date: August 19, 2026

Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
Division Staff

Section 9 of S.L. 2026-11 (Senate Bill 401), as amended by Section 7.54(a) of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257), requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt a rule requiring school officials to authorize at least two excused absences each academic year for participation in equestrian sporting events, livestock shows, or similar agricultural events. School officials must provide students with an opportunity to make up any tests or other academic work missed due to participation in equestrian sporting events, livestock shows, or similar agricultural events.

This section became effective June 22, 2026, and applies beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

Kara McCraw
Director



* S 4 0 1 - S M D G - 3 1 S L - V - 7 *

Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578