

October Legislative Update

*Geoff Coltrane, Sr. Director of Government Affairs and Strategy
Office of Government Affairs*

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NORTH CAROLINA
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Legislative Update

Recent Bill Action

- **NCGA was in session on September 22-23.**
- **Lawmakers passed several new bills, three of which have become law as of Sept. 30; *two (2) bills impact K-12 education:**
 - **HB 307: Iryna's Law**
 - **HB 358: Continuing Budget Operations Part II***
 - **HB 926: Regulatory Reform Act of 2025***
 - **SB 245: Expand Remote Drivers License Services**



Legislative Update

Schedule Changes

- Lawmakers also updated the [adjournment resolution](#) to extend the number of days they will be in session per month through the start of the April 2026 short session:
 - ~~Oct. 21~~ **Oct. 20** – **Oct. 23** — *additional legislative action expected*
 - ~~Nov. 18~~ **Nov. 17** – **Nov. 20**
 - ~~Dec. 16~~ **Dec. 15** – **Dec. 18**
 - ~~Jan. 13~~ **Jan. 12** – **Jan. 15**
 - ~~Feb. 10~~ **Feb. 9** – **Feb. 12**
 - ~~March 10~~ **March 9** – **March 12**
 - ~~April 7~~ **April 6** – **9**
 - **April 21** — *beginning of 2026 Session*



Newly Enacted Bills Impacting K-12 Education

HB 358 – Continuing Budget Operations II

- Approves and provides funding for three new cooperative innovative high schools (CIHS) in Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Martin, and Moore
- Provides funding for previously approved CIHS in Dare and Rockingham
- Includes technical corrections to fund with existing funding four virtual CIHS (Currituck, Hyde, Jackson and Tyrrell) and two small specialty high schools (Asheville City and Newton-Conover); funding for these schools was eliminated in H125

HB 926 – Regulatory Reform Act of 2025

- Provides State Board of Education with authority to grant waivers for K-3 class size requirements to ATR schools whose grant funding ended in 2024-25



Other Education-Related Bills with Action

HB 775: Criminal History Checks for School Positions

- Requires criminal history checks for initial members of a charter school board of directors, applicants for educator licensure, and applicants for employment with a public school unit
- Expands the definition of “misconduct” by licensed school employees to include the “intentional infliction of emotional distress” against a child
- Requires law enforcement agencies to report allegations of certain misconduct to the local superintendent within 30 days
- Modifies the reporting requirements for threats and assaults on teachers

STATUS: *Passed the House on 9/23 and sent to the Senate; is eligible to be considered in the short session*



Education-Related Bills To Watch

- **HB 87: Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA)***
 - *Placed on 9/22 House Calendar for potential veto override vote, but later withdrawn*
- **SB 227: Eliminating “DEI” in Public Education***
 - *Placed on 9/22 House Calendar for potential veto override vote, but later withdrawn*
- **SB 558: Eliminating “DEI” in Public Higher Ed***
 - *Placed on 9/22 House Calendar for potential veto override vote, but later withdrawn*
- **SB 257: 2025 Appropriations Act**
 - *In conference committee since 6/5*
- **SB 449: Fisc Resp & K-20 Tech Plan/Centr Offic Salary**
 - *In conference committee since 6/24*
- **HB 389: Continuing Budget Operations Part III**
 - *Latest version passed in Senate 9/22 and sent to House for further consideration*



Update on Potential Impact of Federal Government Shutdown



Questions and Discussion

Access [DPI's full 2025-2026 Bill Tracking Document](#)
(updated based on legislative action and shared in weekly newsletter)





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