GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 97* PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H97-PCS10077-TB-2

Short Title: Lottery Funds Used for Digital Learning. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 14, 2013

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF SOME LOTTERY FUNDS TO EXPAND DIGITAL LEARNING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION STUDY COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Whereas, local school administrative units (LEAs) are seeking creative approaches for financing digital learning within their school systems; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Education Lottery legislation requires the distribution of lottery net proceeds for specific education purposes, including 40% of the net proceeds to the Public School Building Capital Fund for school construction; and

Whereas, lottery funds may not currently be used for school connectivity, digital textbooks, digital devices, or professional development for teachers to learn how to most effectively use digital learning for teaching; and

Whereas, several LEAs have requested more flexibility with use of lottery funds for school construction; and

Whereas, since the lottery's enactment in 2005, the innovation of digital learning and its growing use throughout schools in North Carolina have significantly altered the landscape of public education in the State; and

Whereas, while the lottery money is currently designated for other necessary education causes, the expansion of digital learning is also a crucial component to ensure that North Carolina's students graduate from high school globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st century; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-546.2(d) reads as rewritten:

- "(d) Monies transferred into the Fund in accordance with Chapter 18C of the General Statutes shall be allocated for capital projects for school construction projects as follows:
 - (1) A sum equal to sixty-five percent (65%) of those monies transferred in accordance with G.S. 18C-164 shall be allocated on a per average daily membership basis according to the average daily membership for the budget year as determined and certified by the State Board of Education.
 - (2) A sum equal to thirty-five percent (35%) of those monies transferred in accordance with G.S. 18C-164 shall be allocated to those local school administrative units located in whole or part in counties in which the effective county tax rate as a percentage of the State average effective tax rate is greater than one hundred percent (100%), with the following definitions applying to this subdivision:



SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.

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