

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

H.B. 848
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40479-MH-63 (02/23)

Short Title: School Energy Savings Act of 2017.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative R. Moore.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT SCHOOL SYSTEMS DERIVE SIXTY PERCENT OF THEIR
3 ENERGY NEEDS FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY BY 2030.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 115C-521 reads as rewritten:

6 § 115C-521. **Erection of school buildings.**

7 ...

8 (c) The building of all new school buildings and the repairing of all old school
9 buildings shall be under the control and direction of, and by contract with, the board of
10 education for which the building and repairing is done. If a board of education is considering
11 building a new school building to replace an existing school building, the board shall not invest
12 any construction money in the new building unless it submits to the State Superintendent and
13 the State Superintendent submits to the North Carolina Historical Commission an analysis that
14 compares the costs and feasibility of building the new building and of renovating the existing
15 building and that clearly indicates the desirability of building the new building. No board of
16 education shall invest any money in any new building until it has (i) developed plans based
17 upon a consideration of the State Board's facilities guidelines, (ii) submitted these plans to the
18 State Board for its review and comments, and (iii) reviewed the plans based upon a
19 consideration of the comments it receives from the State Board. No local board of education
20 shall contract for more money than is made available for the erection of a new building.
21 However, this subsection shall not be construed so as to prevent boards of education from
22 investing any money in buildings that are being constructed pursuant to a continuing contract of
23 construction as provided for in G.S. 115C-441(c). All contracts for buildings shall be in writing
24 and all buildings shall be inspected, received, and approved by the local superintendent and the
25 architect before full payment is made therefor. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit boards
26 of education from repairing and altering buildings with the help of janitors and other regular
27 employees of the board.

28 In the design and construction of new school buildings and in the renovation of existing
29 school buildings that are required to be designed by an architect or engineer under
30 G.S. 133-1.1, the local board of education shall participate in the planning and review process
31 of the Energy Guidelines for School Design and Construction that are developed and
32 maintained by the Department of Public Instruction and shall adopt local energy-use goals for
33 building design and operation that take into account local conditions in an effort to reduce the
34 impact of operation costs on local and State budgets. In the design and construction of new
35 school facilities and in the repair and renovation of existing school facilities, the local board of
36 education shall consider the placement and design of windows to use the climate of North



1 Carolina for both light and ventilation in case of power shortages. A local board shall also
2 ~~consider the installation of solar energy systems in the school facilities whenever~~
3 ~~practicable.~~ develop a plan to ensure that sixty percent (60%) of the energy needs of new
4 schools placed into service on or after January 1, 2030, shall be met from renewable energy.
5 The local board may enter into contracts or leases with providers of renewable energy or
6 renewable energy equipment to assist the board in meeting the renewable energy requirement
7 set forth in the preceding sentence. For purposes of this subsection, renewable energy shall
8 mean energy derived from a renewable energy resource, as that term is defined in
9 G.S. 62-133.8.

10 In the case of any school buildings erected, repaired, or equipped with any money loaned or
11 granted by the State to any local school administrative unit, no board of education shall invest
12 any money until it has (i) developed plans based upon a consideration of the State Board's
13 facilities guidelines, (ii) submitted these plans to the State Board for its review and comments,
14 and (iii) reviewed the plans based upon a consideration of the comments it receives from the
15 State Board.

16"

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