



## Food For Thought

"It is in vain to say human beings ought to be satisfied with tranquility: they must have action; and they will make it if they cannot find it."

~Charlotte Bronte (1816 - 1855)

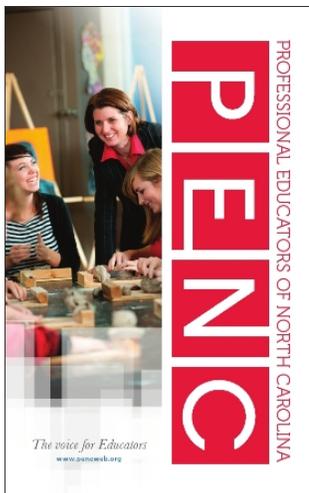
## Our Mission

*Our mission is to promote education reform for the benefit of all North Carolina children while ensuring the recruitment, development and retention of qualified educators.*

## Join or Renew

Click [here](#) to join or renew .

Check out PENC's brochure:



## Membership Form

Click [here](#) for a printable Membership Form.

## Who We Are

To learn more about PENC, click [here](#).

## Contact PENC

For a listing of PENC Staff, click [here](#).

## PENC Legislative Update

### General Assembly Convenes 2013 "Long" Session

The NC General Assembly returned to Raleigh Jan. 30 and convened what Speaker Tillis (R-Mecklenburg) said would be a relatively short long session. High on the agenda, according to Tillis and President Pro Tempore Phil Berger (R-Rockingham), would be measures to address education reforms, changes to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program, and health care changes triggered by the federal Affordable Care Act.

#### Education Issues among the First Acted Upon

Legislators considered bills in committee and in the full Senate and House chambers that address several of these issues almost immediately. The Senate unanimously approved [S 14. Increase Access to Career/Technical Education](#). The bill is a recommendation of a panel that studied career and technical education during the interim and would enable high school diploma endorsements for college and career. The bill would also increase access to career and technical education teachers in public schools. The bill awaits consideration by the House of Representatives.

### PENC Legislative Agenda Approved

The PENC Board approved the 2013-2015 Legislative Agenda at its meeting on February 2. The Agenda includes a platform developed based upon feedback from PENC members' responses to a biennial survey distributed in December. The Agenda includes a number of positions on student and educator safety. To read the Legislative Agenda in its entirety, please [click here](#).

To see information about the General Assembly including committee assignments and to look up your legislators, please visit [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net).

#### What do you think?

If you have questions or concerns, please share your thoughts and ideas with us. Contact us at [penc@pencweb.org](mailto:penc@pencweb.org).

Submitted by Evelyn Hawthorne

For more information about the North Carolina General Assembly, [click here](#).

To identify and contact your legislator, [click here](#).

For information about specific issues, please contact PENC government relations consultant Evelyn Hawthorne at [lobbyist@pencweb.org](mailto:lobbyist@pencweb.org).