

North Carolina General Assembly Key Education Votes 2013

[HB719](#), EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2013

Summary – An Act to Enact the Education Improvement Act of 2013.

This bill was a bipartisan response to the Senate's proposal to reform public education, **SB361**. **HB 719** included many provisions advanced by PENC and had overwhelming support in the House of Representatives.

House votes – [2nd reading](#) on 4/18/2013, 113 to 1

NOTE: The Senate leadership never allowed a hearing or a vote on **HB719**. The sweeping education reforms that were enacted in 2013 budget bill were rooted in **SB 361**, Excellent Public Schools Act of 2013 and **HB944**, Opportunity Scholarships Act. Although both bills were discussed in committees, Senators and House Members were not given the opportunity to vote on them as standalone bills. Their provisions were included in **SB402**, Appropriations Act of 2013, which included the entirety of the spending plan for the State of North Carolina.

[SB402](#), APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 2013

Summary – An Act to Make Base Budget Appropriations for Current Operations of State Departments, Institutions, and Agencies, and for Other Purposes.

The budget bill contained the major rewrite of public education policy, including the repeal of teachers' career status and the introduction of the use of vouchers to pay for children to attend private schools. The final conference committee votes included all of those provisions. Look closely at the House's 2nd reading votes on June 12 and 13, 2013. Those votes were to support the House's rewrite of the Senate's version. The House rewrote the budget at that time to replace the Senate's education reforms with the House's version as reflected in **HB719**, which included PENC supported provisions. That version of the budget did not survive the negotiations and the Senate's version of education reform prevailed; but with the inclusion of the Opportunity Scholarships provisions contained in **HB944**. The final conference committee report votes are reflected below.

Senate votes – [2nd reading](#) 5/22/2013 33 to 17; [3rd reading](#) 5/23/2013 33 to 17.

House votes – [2nd reading](#) 6/12/2013 77 to 41; [3rd reading](#) 6/13/2013 77 to 40

Final **SB402** conference committee votes

Senate votes – [3rd reading](#) 7/24/2013

House votes – [3rd reading](#) 7/24/2013

For full bill information, please click on the links below:

[HB719](#)

[SB402](#)