

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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SENATE BILL 302

Short Title: Green Schools Save Money. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Meyer (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 14, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN SCHOOLS
IN LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS, TO POWER SCHOOLS WITH
SOLAR ENERGY, AND TO REPLACE COMBUSTION-POWERED SCHOOL BUSES
WITH ELECTRIC-POWERED SCHOOL BUSES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Instruction for the 2023-2024 fiscal year the sum of five billion seven hundred ten million dollars (\$5,710,000,000) in nonrecurring funds to be allocated to local school administrative units on the basis of average daily membership to make improvements to public school buildings, as follows:

- (1) \$1,310,000,000 to make needed improvements to all school buildings for energy efficiency, including the following:
 - a. Installing high-efficiency lighting.
 - b. Replacing pipe insulation.
 - c. Weatherizing doors, windows, and other internal and external openings.
 - d. Repairing, replacing, and upgrading heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, including programmable thermostats, chillers, boilers, and fuel-switching systems.
 - e. Upgrading plug load management systems.
 - f. Repairing, replacing, and upgrading water and wastewater systems and controls.
 - g. Upgrading electric water coolers.
 - h. Installing open-platform, internet-based controls for building management systems.
- (2) \$2,000,000,000 to install solar photovoltaic panels on each school building that would benefit from solar photovoltaic panels and to make necessary roof repairs to support the installation of solar photovoltaic panels.
- (3) \$2,400,000,000 to replace all qualifying school buses with new school buses that are operated exclusively on electric fuel and assembled in the State. For purposes of this subdivision, a qualifying school bus is a school bus owned by a local school administrative unit that meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. Is more than 10 years old by model year as of the effective date of this act.



- 1 b. Is operated in whole or in part on motor fuel, as defined in
2 G.S. 105-449.60(31).
3 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2023.