

Introduced by

Education Committee

(At the request of the Office of Management and Budget)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a quality schools initiative for studying the provision of
2 education in public schools for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing educational quality
3 and to provide for the powers, duties, and funding of the quality schools initiative; and to
4 provide an expiration date.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. Quality schools initiative - Advisory board - Membership.**

- 7 1. a. The North Dakota quality schools initiative advisory board consists of:
- 8 (1) The governor or a designee of the governor.
- 9 (2) The superintendent of public instruction or a designee of the
10 superintendent.
- 11 (3) The director of vocational and technical education or the director's
12 designee.
- 13 (4) The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.
- 14 (5) Four gubernatorial appointees, one of whom must hold a teaching
15 license, one of whom must be a school board member, and one of
16 whom must represent nonpublic schools.
- 17 (6) One member of the house of representatives, appointed by the
18 legislative council.
- 19 (7) One member of the senate, appointed by the legislative council.
- 20 b. The governor or the governor's designee shall be the chairperson of the
21 advisory board. The governor, in consultation with an advisory board of
22 educational leaders, shall establish a quality schools initiative.
- 23 2. The purpose of the quality schools initiative is to study the provision of education in
24 public schools, review the assessment of quality of elementary and secondary

schools, make recommendations to the legislative assembly and other appropriate entities to maintain and enhance educational quality, and address long-range planning needs for elementary and secondary education.

SECTION 2. Quality schools initiative - Powers and duties. The quality schools initiative shall implement and direct an assessment process based on a quality schools framework addressing the quality of elementary and secondary schools in this state and disseminate the results to the legislative assembly and other appropriate entities for integration into the school improvement process. At the request of the governor, every school district in this state shall complete a quality schools framework designed to assess the level of quality within its schools. Every school district shall report the assessment results to its school patrons and others in local communities. State agencies and other appropriate entities shall provide the data necessary for inclusion in a quality schools framework. The quality schools initiative shall receive assessment results and establish a methodology for long-range planning to maintain and enhance educational quality, assist in the development of a continuing process of assessment of the quality of schools, and develop strategic planning methods to maintain and enhance educational quality. To implement the goals of the quality schools initiative, the governor may contract with outside consultants and facilitators to carry out the assessment and improvement process.

The quality schools initiative may make recommendations to the legislative assembly and other appropriate entities for long-range planning to address school improvement needs.

SECTION 3. Acceptance and expenditure of funds. The quality schools initiative may apply for and accept any funds, grants, gifts, or services from federal agencies, public and private foundations, and from other entities or citizens. Funds received by the quality schools initiative under this section must be deposited in the state treasury in a special fund designated as the quality schools fund. The quality schools initiative may expend, pursuant to legislative appropriations, all funds received by and appropriated to it.

SECTION 4. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act is effective through June 30, 2003, and after that date is ineffective.