

**SENATE BILL NO. 2036**

Introduced by

Legislative Council

(Education Finance Committee)

1 A BILL for an Act relating to the adoption of state academic content standards for schools; and  
2 to amend and reenact section 15.1-06-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the  
3 approval of schools.

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

5 **SECTION 1. State academic content standards - Development.** The superintendent  
6 of public instruction shall develop and distribute to each school district and nonpublic school  
7 state academic content standards for all core subject areas applicable to grades four, eight, and  
8 twelve. The superintendent of public instruction shall revise the state academic content  
9 standards required by this section at least once every five years and distribute the revised  
10 standards to each school district and nonpublic school.

11 **SECTION 2. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content**  
12 **standards - Adoption.**

13 1. Before the beginning of the 2002-03 school year, each school district and each  
14 nonpublic school shall:

15 a. Adopt the state academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight,  
16 and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts, science, and  
17 social studies; or

18 b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades  
19 four, eight, and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts,  
20 science, and social studies, provided the alternate academic content  
21 standards are determined by the superintendent of public instruction to be  
22 equal to or more rigorous than the state standards.

23 2. Before the beginning of the 2003-04 school year, each school district and each  
24 nonpublic school shall:

- a. Adopt the state academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology; or
- b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology, provided the alternate academic content standards are determined by the superintendent of public instruction to be equal to or more rigorous than the state standards.

**SECTION 3. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content standards - Local curriculum.**

1. Beginning with the 2002-03 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of mathematics and English language arts.
2. Beginning with the 2003-04 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of science and social studies.
3. Beginning with the 2004-05 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology.

**SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-06 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-06-06. Approval of public and nonpublic schools.** Each public and nonpublic school in this state offering elementary or secondary education to students must be approved by the superintendent of public instruction. Except as otherwise provided by law, the superintendent may not approve a school unless:

- 1           1. Each classroom teacher ~~holds a valid teaching certificate issued~~ is licensed to  
2           teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the  
3           education standards and practices board;
- 4           2. The students are offered all subjects required by law; ~~and~~
- 5           3. The school is in compliance with all local and state health, fire, and safety laws;  
6           and
- 7           4. The school is in compliance with the content standards and curriculum  
8           requirements provided in sections 2 and 3 of this Act.