

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1258**

Introduced by

Representatives N. Johnson, Froseth, Hawken

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 15.1-12-14 and 15.1-12-15 of the North  
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to teachers' contracts in newly reorganized districts.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-12-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-12-14. School district reorganization - School boards - Assumption of duties.**

7 1. Upon approval of a reorganization plan by the electors, in accordance with section  
8 15.1-12-11, a school board for the reorganized district must be elected at the next  
9 regular school district election or at a special election called by the county  
10 superintendent of schools for that purpose. The first school board election in a  
11 newly reorganized district is governed by chapter 15.1-09.  
12 2. Members of newly formed school boards representing reorganized districts may  
13 not enter upon the duties of office until the time specified in section 15.1-12-18,  
14 except as provided in sections 15.1-12-15 and 15.1-12-16. Before the completion  
15 of a reorganization, the board of an existing district may not contract or obligate the  
16 district, except with the approval of the county committee or unless authorized by  
17 law.

18 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-12-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
19 amended and reenacted as follows:

20 **15.1-12-15. School district reorganization - School board - Duties.**

21 1. The board of a reorganized school district established under this chapter shall  
22 negotiate with the district's teachers and may contract with the teachers'  
23 representative organization prior to the effective date of the reorganization.

2. Upon the completion of negotiations and the signing of a negotiated agreement under subsection 1, the board may offer contracts of employment to individual teachers and establish a time certain by which the individual teachers must accept or reject the offers.

3. If by five p.m. on July first of the year the reorganized district begins operations, a negotiated agreement has not been entered between the board and the teachers pursuant to statute, no teacher employed by the board may receive less in salary and benefits than that teacher received for the preceding school year. For purposes of this section, "salary and benefits" means salary, insurance benefits, teachers' fund for retirement contributions, personal leave, sick leave, accumulated sick leave, extracurricular salary, reduction-in-force policy, grievance procedures, and recall procedures.

~~2.~~ 4. On or before February first of the year in which the reorganization becomes effective, the board of the reorganized school district shall hold a public hearing to present the curriculum, course offerings, and staff positions to be available during the coming school year. The board shall publish notice of the hearing in the official newspaper of each county having land in the reorganized district, at least fourteen days before the date of the hearing.

~~3.~~ 5. By five p.m. on April fifteenth of the year in which the reorganization becomes effective, the board of the reorganized school district shall notify in writing each teacher employed by the districts being reorganized, whether or not the teacher will be offered a contract of employment with the reorganized district.