

Fifty-eighth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1489

Introduced by

Representatives R. Kelsch, Hawken, Monson

Senators Cook, Freborg, Holmberg

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact four new sections to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to teacher qualifications; to amend and reenact sections 15.1-13-08,  
3 15.1-18-01, and 15.1-18-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to teacher  
4 qualifications; to provide for a report; to repeal section 15.1-18-03 of the North Dakota Century  
5 Code, relating to high school teacher qualifications; and to provide an effective date.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **15.1-13-08. Board duties.** The board shall:

- 10 1. Supervise the licensure of teachers.
- 11 2. Set standards for and approve teacher preparation programs.
- 12 3. Seek the advice of teachers, administrators, school board members, teacher  
13 education professors, and other interested citizens in developing and updating  
14 codes or standards of ethics, conduct, professional performance, and professional  
15 practices.
- 16 4. Adopt, in accordance with chapter 28-32, codes or standards of ethics, conduct,  
17 professional performance, and professional practices.
- 18 5. Make recommendations for the inservice education of individuals engaged in the  
19 profession of teaching.
- 20 6. Issue major equivalency endorsements and minor equivalency endorsements.
- 21 7. Appoint an executive director to serve at its discretion.
- 22 8. Authorize the executive director to employ personnel, subject to approval by the  
23 board.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-18-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-18-01. Early childhood education teaching license.** The education standards and practices board shall ~~develop and implement~~ issue an optional early childhood education teaching license or endorsement to an applicant who meets the requirements set by the board. The optional early childhood education teaching license may be used in nonparental settings such as early childhood programs, preschool programs, and head start programs.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-18-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-18-02. Kindergarten through grade eight—Teacher teacher qualifications - Exceptions.**

~~1.~~ In order to teach kindergarten, an individual must:

- ~~a. Be be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and have a kindergarten endorsement; or~~
- ~~b. Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two years from the date of the assignment to teach kindergarten.~~

~~2.~~ In order to teach any grade from one through eight, an individual must:

- ~~a. Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and have a major, a minor, or an endorsement in elementary education; or~~
- ~~b. Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices board that the individual will obtain an endorsement in elementary education within two years from the date of the assignment to teach any grade from one through eight.~~

- 1           3. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach any grade from five through~~  
2           ~~eight if the individual:~~
- 3           a. ~~Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~  
4           ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and has a~~  
5           ~~major or an endorsement in middle school education; or~~
- 6           b. ~~Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~  
7           ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and~~  
8           ~~demonstrates to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices~~  
9           ~~board that the individual will obtain an endorsement in middle school~~  
10           ~~education within two years from the date of assignment to teach any grade~~  
11           ~~from five through eight.~~
- 12          4. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach grade seven or eight if the~~  
13           ~~individual is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~  
14           ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and has a~~  
15           ~~major or a minor in the assigned course area or field.~~
- 16          5. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach special education, foreign~~  
17           ~~language, art, music, physical education, business education, and computer~~  
18           ~~education at any grade level from kindergarten through eight, provided the~~  
19           ~~individual is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~  
20           ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and meets the~~  
21           ~~requirements imposed by the superintendent of public instruction.~~
- 22          6. ~~An individual may obtain an endorsement by completing teaching requirements~~  
23           ~~and the minimum number of credit hours in courses prescribed by the education~~  
24           ~~standards and practices board.~~
- 25          7. ~~This section does not apply to an eminence credentialed teacher and:~~
- 26           1. Have a major in elementary education and a kindergarten endorsement;  
27           2. Have a major equivalency in elementary education and a kindergarten  
28           endorsement;
- 29           3. Have a major in elementary education and an early childhood education  
30           endorsement;

- 1           4.   Have a major equivalency in elementary education and an early childhood  
2               education endorsement;
- 3           5.   Have a major in elementary childhood education;
- 4           6.   a.   Have a major in elementary education; and  
5               b.   Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices  
6               board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two  
7               years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach  
8               kindergarten;
- 9           7.   a.   Have a major in elementary education; and  
10            b.   Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices  
11            board that the individual will obtain an early childhood endorsement within two  
12            years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach  
13            kindergarten;
- 14          8.   a.   Have a major equivalency in elementary education; and  
15            b.   Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices  
16            board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two  
17            years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach  
18            kindergarten; or
- 19          9.   a.   Have a major equivalency in elementary education; and  
20            b.   Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices  
21            board that the individual will obtain an early childhood endorsement within two  
22            years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach  
23            kindergarten.

24           **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
25 created and enacted as follows:

26           **Elementary school teacher qualifications.**

- 27          1.   In order to teach any grade from one through six in an elementary school, an  
28               individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices  
29               board and:
  - 30              a.   Have a major in elementary education;
  - 31              b.   Have a major equivalency in elementary education; or

c. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices board that the individual will obtain a major equivalency in elementary education within two years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach any grade from one through six.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1, an individual may teach any grade from one through three in an elementary school provided the individual:

a. Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practice board; and

b. (1) Has a major in early childhood education; or

(2) Has a major equivalency in early childhood education.

**SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Middle school teacher qualifications.**

1. In order to teach grade five or six in a middle school, an individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

a. Have a major in middle level education;

b. Have a major equivalency in middle level education;

c. Have a major in elementary education;

d. Have a major equivalency in elementary education; or

e. (1) Have a major in a secondary content area; and

(2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and

practices board that the individual will obtain a major equivalency in

elementary education or a major equivalency in middle level education

within two years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to

teach grade five or six.

2. In order to teach grade seven or eight in a middle school, an individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

a. Have a major in middle level education that includes specializations in the subject areas taught by the individual;

b. Have a major equivalency in middle level education that includes specialization in the subject areas taught by the individual;

c. (1) Have a major in elementary education;

- (2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices board that the individual will obtain a middle level endorsement within two years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach grade seven or eight; and
    - (3)
      - (a) Have a major in each area taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area;
      - (b) Have a major equivalency in each area taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area; or
      - (c) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and not defined by the education standards and practices board as core academic areas;
  - d.
    - (1) Have a major equivalency in elementary education;
    - (2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices board that the individual will obtain a middle level endorsement within two years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach grade seven or eight; and
    - (3)
      - (a) Have a major in each area taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area; or
      - (b) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and not defined by the education standards and practices board as core academic areas; or
  - e. Have a secondary content area major; and
    - (1) A major in each area taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area;

(2) A major equivalency in each area taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area; or

(3) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in each area taught by the individual and not defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any individual who was licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and approved to teach any grade from one through eight before July 1, 2008, may continue to teach in grade seven and eight content areas without obtaining a middle level endorsement, provided the individual meets the requirements of subdivision c or d of subsection 2 of this section.

**SECTION 6.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**High school qualifications.** In order to teach grades seven through twelve, an individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

1. Have a major in the areas taught by the individual and defined by the education standards and practices board as core academic areas;

2. Have a major equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and defined by the educational standards and practices board as core academic areas; or

3. Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in each area taught by the individual and not defined by the education standards and practices board as a core academic area.

**SECTION 7.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Specialty areas - Teacher qualification.** Notwithstanding the requirements of this chapter:

1. An individual may teach art, business education, computer education, a foreign language, music, physical education, and special education at any grade level from one through eight, provided the individual:

a. Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board;

b. Is approved to teach in that area by the education standards and practices board; and

c. Meets all requirements set forth in rule by the superintendent of public instruction.

2. An individual may teach Native American languages provided the individual is an eminence credentialed teacher.

3. An individual may teach in the areas of trade, industry, technical occupations, or health occupations, provided the individual has been issued a license to teach in such areas by the education standards and practices board.

**SECTION 8. REPORT - TEACHER LICENSURE PROCESS.** On or before July 1, 2004, the education standards and practices board shall report to a committee designated by the legislative council regarding potential changes to the licensure process.

**SECTION 9. REPEAL.** Section 15.1-18-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

**SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 2 through 7 and section 9 of this Act become effective on July 1, 2008.