

Introduced by

Representatives Mueller, Delmore, Haas, Hawken

Senators Flakoll, Taylor

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-22-01 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to the provision of kindergarten programs; and to provide for a legislative council  
3 survey.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-22-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-22-01. Kindergarten - Establishment by board - ~~Petition for establishment~~**  
8 **Request by parent - Levy.**

- 9 1. Upon its own motion, the board of a school district may establish a free public  
10 kindergarten ~~for the instruction during a school year of resident children below~~  
11 ~~school age.~~
- 12 2. If the board receives a ~~petition signed by qualified electors residing in the district~~  
13 ~~equal in number to at least twenty percent of those who voted in the most recent~~  
14 ~~annual school district election, the board must submit the question of establishing~~  
15 ~~a kindergarten to the electorate at the next annual or special school district~~  
16 ~~election. The margins of electoral approval provided in section 57-15-14 must be~~  
17 ~~applied~~ written request to provide kindergarten from the parent of a student who  
18 will be enrolled in the kindergarten, the board shall either provide at least a  
19 half-day kindergarten program for the student or pay the tuition required for the  
20 student to attend at least a half-day kindergarten program in another school  
21 district.
- 22 3. The board of a school district that establishes a kindergarten under this section  
23 may levy a tax pursuant to subdivision p of subsection 1 of section 57-15-14.2.

24 **SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - KINDERGARTEN SURVEY.**

- 1           1.   An interim committee designated by the legislative council shall conduct a survey  
2           of all school districts in the state to determine:
  - 3           a.   The number of school districts that make available a kindergarten program  
4           having a duration of more than five half days per week;
  - 5           b.   The number of school districts that will by a date certain make available a  
6           kindergarten program having a duration of more than five half days per week;
  - 7           c.   The number of students in each district who would be eligible to enroll in a  
8           kindergarten program during each of the ensuing five years;
  - 9           d.   The estimated enrollment in a kindergarten program having a duration of  
10          more than five half days per week;
  - 11          e.   The direct and indirect costs that a school district might incur if it made  
12          available a kindergarten program having a duration of more than five half  
13          days per week; and
  - 14          f.   The number of school districts that would make available a kindergarten  
15          program having a duration of more than five half days per week if moneys  
16          were appropriated for that purpose.
- 17       2.   The superintendent of public instruction shall assist the interim committee in  
18       conducting the survey and in reviewing the results of the survey.