

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**SENATE BILL NO. 2289**

Introduced by

Senators Flakoll, Freborg, J. Lee

Representatives Clark, R. Kelsch, Thoreson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-19-02 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to corporal punishment.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-19-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-19-02. Corporal punishment - Prohibition - Consistent policies.**

- 7 1. A school district employee may not inflict, cause to be inflicted, or threaten to inflict  
8 corporal punishment on a student.
- 9 2. This section does not prohibit a school district employee from using the degree of  
10 force necessary:
- 11 a. To quell a physical disturbance that threatens physical injury to an individual  
12 or damage to property;
- 13 b. To quell a verbal disturbance;
- 14 c. For self-defense;
- 15 d. For the preservation of order; or
- 16 e. To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within the  
17 control of a student.
- 18 3. For purposes of this section, corporal punishment means the willful infliction of  
19 physical pain on a student; willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a  
20 student; or willfully allowing the infliction of physical pain on a student. Physical  
21 pain or discomfort caused by athletic competition or other recreational activities  
22 voluntarily engaged in by a student is not corporal punishment. A school board  
23 may not expand through policy the definition of corporal punishment beyond that  
24 provided by this subsection.

- 1           4.   The board of each school district shall develop policies setting forth standards for  
2           student behavior and procedures to be followed if the standards are not met. The  
3           board shall ensure that the policies governing all elementary schools in the district  
4           are identical and consistently applied, that the policies governing all middle schools  
5           in the district are identical and consistently applied, and that the policies governing  
6           all high schools in the district are identical and consistently applied.