

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1287**

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Becker, Jones, Paulson, Paur, Schauer

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to initial teaching licenses for individuals completing alternative teacher certification  
3 program.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-13-10. Criteria for teacher licensure.**

8 1. The board shall establish by rule the criteria for teacher licensure and the process for  
9 issuing teaching licenses. The criteria must include considerations of character,  
10 adequate educational preparation, and general fitness to teach.

11 2. The board may not require a teacher who graduated from an accredited teacher  
12 education program on or before September 1, 1980, to earn any college credits in  
13 native American or other multicultural courses as a condition of licensure or license  
14 renewal.

15 3. This section does not affect the validity of teaching certificates in effect on July 31,  
16 2001.

17 4. This section does not affect the qualifications for career and technical education  
18 certificates, as otherwise established by law.

19 5. The board shall grant an initial license to an individual who:

20 a. Possesses a bachelor's degree ~~from an accredited institution~~;

21 b. Passes a criminal history record check required by section 15.1-13-14; and

22 c. Successfully completes ~~the American board for certification of teacher~~  
23 ~~excellence~~an alternative teacher certification program ~~operated by a nonprofit~~

organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

[26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)], which:

(1) Operates in at least five states;

(2) Has operated an alternative teacher certification program for at least ten  
years; and

(3) Requires applicants to pass a subject area and pedagogy examination,  
known as the professional teaching knowledge examination, to receive  
certification.

6. An individual who obtains an initial license under subsection 5 is authorized to teach  
the subject and educational levels for which the individual has successfully completed  
the ~~American board for certification of teacher excellence alternative teacher  
certification~~ program described under subsection 5.

7. Upon completing two years of teaching under ~~a~~an initial license issued under  
subsection 5, the licensee is eligible to apply for a five-year renewal license if the  
individual:

a. Completes the program's clinical experience program and the North Dakota  
teacher support system approved mentor program;

b. Meets the requirements of section 15.1-13-35 within two years of initial licensure;  
and

c. Meets the requirements of human resources and cultural directives required  
coursework within two years of initial licensure which includes Native American  
studies, cultural diversity, strategies for creating learning environments that  
contribute to positive human relationships, and strategies for teaching and  
assessing diverse learners.

8. An individual who obtains an initial or renewal license is authorized to teach in the  
subject areas of:

a. Elementary education;

b. English language arts;

c. United States and world history;

d. Mathematics;

e. General science;

- 1 f. Biology;
- 2 g. Chemistry; and
- 3 h. Physics.