

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1536**

Introduced by

Representatives Davis, Brown, Finley-DeVille, Hatlestad, Jonas, Longmuir, Novak, Swiontek,  
Schreiber-Beck

Senator Boschee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of public instruction to  
2 implement a Native American history curriculum; and to provide for a legislative management  
3 report.

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

5 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - NATIVE**  
6 **AMERICAN HISTORY CURRICULUM FUNDING - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE**  
7 **MANAGEMENT.**

8 1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not  
9 otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,500,000, or so much of the sum as may be  
10 necessary, to the department of public instruction for the purpose of implementing a  
11 Native American history curriculum, pursuant to chapter 15.1-21, for the biennium  
12 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

13 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall allocate:

14 a. Curriculum development funding of \$600,000 for the development of curriculum  
15 materials in collaboration with representatives of federally recognized tribes in  
16 North Dakota, educators, and curriculum experts;

17 b. Teacher training funding of \$300,000 for professional development programs to  
18 train teachers on effectively integrating Native American history and culture into  
19 the curriculum;

20 c. Educational material and resource funding of \$500,000 for the procurement and  
21 distribution of textbooks, digital content, and multimedia tools tailored to the new  
22 curriculum requirements; and

- 1           d.   Administrative oversight funding of \$100,000 for the department of public  
2           instruction to monitor compliance, provide guidance, and ensure successful  
3           statewide implementation.
- 4        3.   The superintendent of public instruction shall establish a Native American curriculum  
5        advisory committee comprised of tribal leaders, cultural experts, and educators to  
6        oversee and guide the development of the curriculum. The superintendent of public  
7        instruction may contract with regional education associations, the North Dakota  
8        university system, and tribal colleges as needed for assistance. The committee shall  
9        focus on:
  - 10       a.   Investing in kindergarten through grade twelve education for Native American  
11       youth to yield economic and social benefits positively impacting both individuals  
12       and the state; and
  - 13       b.   Offering quality education and essential support to address and mitigate issues  
14       such as addiction, poverty, and suicide, resulting in a more stable and prosperous  
15       society and growing the workforce in the state.
- 16       4.   The superintendent of public instruction shall develop and provide ongoing teacher  
17       support, including access to professional learning communities for knowledge sharing,  
18       online and in-person training opportunities, and regular updates on best practices in  
19       teaching Native American history and culture.
- 20       5.   The superintendent of public instruction shall ensure equitable access to resources  
21       and materials, particularly for rural and underfunded schools, to implement the  
22       curriculum effectively.
- 23       6.   The superintendent of public instruction shall report to the legislative management  
24       before August 31, 2026, regarding progress on curriculum development and  
25       implementation, participation in teacher training programs, and feedback from schools  
26       and tribal representatives on the effectiveness of the support mechanisms.