

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with House Amendments**

Fifty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2068

Introduced by

Senators Wardner, Robinson

Representatives Devlin, Haas, Metcalf

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-29 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, and in the alternative to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1 of the
3 North Dakota Century Code, relating to the borrowing of money by school district technology
4 consortia; to provide for a contingent expiration date; and to declare an emergency.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-29 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **School district technology consortium - Authority to borrow money.**

- 9 1. A school district technology consortium formed under chapter 54-40.3 may borrow
10 money for instructional technology acquisition provided:
- 11 a. The outstanding principal borrowed by a consortium under this section does
12 not exceed one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars;
 - 13 b. The loan repayment period does not exceed ten years;
 - 14 c. The loan is approved in writing by the board of each school district
15 participating in the consortium;
 - 16 d. The loan is:
 - 17 (1) Approved by one-third of the eligible electors residing in each school
18 district participating in the consortium, as evidenced by their signatures
19 on a petition clearly stating the purpose of the loan, the amount of the
20 loan, and its terms of repayment, and filed with the superintendent of
21 public instruction; or
 - 22 (2) Approved by a majority of each participating school district's electors
23 voting on the question at a regular school district election or at a special
24 election called by the board; and

- 1 e. The loan is approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 2 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules setting forth the criteria
3 for loan approval. The superintendent of public instruction may not approve a loan
4 under this section if the superintendent determines that the instructional
5 technology acquisition is not compatible with the statewide information technology
6 plan.

7 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 created and enacted as follows:

9 **School district technology consortium - Authority to borrow money.**

- 10 1. A school district technology consortium formed under chapter 54-40.3 may borrow
11 money for instructional technology acquisition provided:
- 12 a. The outstanding principal borrowed by a consortium under this section does
13 not exceed one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars;
- 14 b. The loan repayment period does not exceed ten years;
- 15 c. The loan is approved in writing by the board of each school district
16 participating in the consortium;
- 17 d. The loan is:
- 18 (1) Approved by one-third of the eligible electors residing in each school
19 district participating in the consortium, as evidenced by their signatures
20 on a petition clearly stating the purpose of the loan, the amount of the
21 loan, and its terms of repayment, and filed with the superintendent of
22 public instruction; or
- 23 (2) Approved by a majority of each participating school district's electors
24 voting on the question at a regular school district election or at a special
25 election called by the board; and
- 26 e. The loan is approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 27 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules setting forth the criteria
28 for loan approval. The superintendent of public instruction may not approve a loan
29 under this section if the superintendent determines that the instructional
30 technology acquisition is not compatible with the statewide information technology
31 plan.

1 **SECTION 3. CONTINGENT EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective
2 through the date on which House Bill No. 1034 as approved by the fifty-sixth legislative
3 assembly becomes effective, and after that date is ineffective.

4 **SECTION 4. EMERGENCY.** Section 1 of this Act is declared to be an emergency
5 measure.