

HOUSE BILL NO. 1489

Introduced by

Representatives R. Kelsch, Hawken, Monson

Senators Cook, Freborg, Holmberg

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact four new sections to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to teacher qualifications; to amend and reenact sections 15.1-13-08,
3 15.1-18-01, and 15.1-18-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to teacher
4 qualifications; to provide for a report; to repeal section 15.1-18-03 of the North Dakota Century
5 Code, relating to high school teacher qualifications; and to provide an effective date.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **15.1-13-08. Board duties.** The board shall:

- 10 1. Supervise the licensure of teachers.
- 11 2. Set standards for and approve teacher preparation programs.
- 12 3. Seek the advice of teachers, administrators, school board members, teacher
13 education professors, and other interested citizens in developing and updating
14 codes or standards of ethics, conduct, professional performance, and professional
15 practices.
- 16 4. Adopt, in accordance with chapter 28-32, codes or standards of ethics, conduct,
17 professional performance, and professional practices.
- 18 5. Make recommendations for the inservice education of individuals engaged in the
19 profession of teaching.
- 20 6. Issue major equivalency endorsements and minor equivalency endorsements.
- 21 7. Appoint an executive director to serve at its discretion.
- 22 8. Authorize the executive director to employ personnel, subject to approval by the
23 board.

1 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-18-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **15.1-18-01. Early childhood education teaching license.** The education standards
4 and practices board shall ~~develop and implement~~ issue an optional early childhood education
5 teaching license or endorsement to an applicant who meets the requirements set by the board.
6 The optional early childhood education teaching license may be used in nonparental settings
7 such as early childhood programs, preschool programs, and head start programs.

8 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-18-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **15.1-18-02. Kindergarten through grade eight—Teacher teacher qualifications -**
11 **Exceptions.**

12 ~~1.~~ In order to teach kindergarten, an individual must:

13 a. ~~Be be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
14 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and have a~~
15 ~~kindergarten endorsement; or~~

16 b. ~~Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
17 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and~~
18 ~~demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices~~
19 ~~board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two~~
20 ~~years from the date of the assignment to teach kindergarten.~~

21 ~~2.~~ In order to teach any grade from one through eight, an individual must:

22 a. ~~Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
23 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and have a~~
24 ~~major, a minor, or an endorsement in elementary education; or~~

25 b. ~~Be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
26 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and~~
27 ~~demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices~~
28 ~~board that the individual will obtain an endorsement in elementary education~~
29 ~~within two years from the date of the assignment to teach any grade from one~~
30 ~~through eight.~~

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- 1 3. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach any grade from five through~~
2 ~~eight if the individual:~~
- 3 a. ~~Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
4 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and has a~~
5 ~~major or an endorsement in middle school education; or~~
- 6 b. ~~Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
7 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and~~
8 ~~demonstrates to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices~~
9 ~~board that the individual will obtain an endorsement in middle school~~
10 ~~education within two years from the date of assignment to teach any grade~~
11 ~~from five through eight.~~
- 12 4. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach grade seven or eight if the~~
13 ~~individual is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
14 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and has a major~~
15 ~~or a minor in the assigned course area or field.~~
- 16 5. ~~Notwithstanding subsection 2, an individual may teach special education, foreign~~
17 ~~language, art, music, physical education, business education, and computer~~
18 ~~education at any grade level from kindergarten through eight, provided the~~
19 ~~individual is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board or~~
20 ~~approved to teach by the education standards and practices board and meets the~~
21 ~~requirements imposed by the superintendent of public instruction.~~
- 22 6. ~~An individual may obtain an endorsement by completing teaching requirements~~
23 ~~and the minimum number of credit hours in courses prescribed by the education~~
24 ~~standards and practices board.~~
- 25 7. ~~This section does not apply to an eminence credentialed teacher and:~~
- 26 1. Have a major in elementary education and a kindergarten endorsement;
27 2. Have a major equivalency in elementary education and a kindergarten
28 endorsement;
- 29 3. Have a major in elementary education and an early childhood education
30 endorsement;

- 1 4. Have a major equivalency in elementary education and an early childhood
2 education endorsement;
- 3 5. Have a major in elementary childhood education;
- 4 6. a. Have a major in elementary education; and
5 b. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices
6 board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two
7 years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach
8 kindergarten;
- 9 7. a. Have a major in elementary education; and
10 b. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices
11 board that the individual will obtain an early childhood endorsement within two
12 years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach
13 kindergarten;
- 14 8. a. Have a major equivalency in elementary education; and
15 b. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices
16 board that the individual will obtain a kindergarten endorsement within two
17 years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach
18 kindergarten; or
- 19 9. a. Have a major equivalency in elementary education; and
20 b. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices
21 board that the individual will obtain an early childhood endorsement within two
22 years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to teach
23 kindergarten.

24 **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 created and enacted as follows:

26 **Elementary school teacher qualifications.**

- 27 1. In order to teach any grade from one through six in an elementary school, an
28 individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices
29 board and:
- 30 a. Have a major in elementary education;
31 b. Have a major equivalency in elementary education; or

1 c. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and practices
2 board that the individual will obtain a major equivalency in elementary
3 education within two years from the date the individual accepts the
4 assignment to teach any grade from one through six.

5 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1, an individual may teach any grade
6 from one through three in an elementary school provided the individual:

7 a. Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practice board; and

8 b. (1) Has a major in early childhood education; or

9 (2) Has an endorsement in early childhood education.

10 **SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 created and enacted as follows:

12 **Middle school teacher qualifications.**

13 1. In order to teach grade five or six in a middle school, an individual must be licensed
14 to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

15 a. Have a major in middle level education;

16 b. Have a major equivalency in middle level education;

17 c. Have a major in elementary education;

18 d. Have a major equivalency in elementary education; or

19 e. (1) Have a major in a secondary content area; and

20 (2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and

21 practices board that the individual will obtain a major equivalency in

22 elementary education or a major equivalency in middle level education

23 within two years from the date the individual accepts the assignment to

24 teach grade five or six.

25 2. In order to teach grade seven or eight in a middle school, an individual must be
26 licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

27 a. Have a major in middle level education that includes specializations in the
28 subject areas taught by the individual;

29 b. Have a major equivalency in middle level education that includes
30 specialization in the subject areas taught by the individual;

31 c. (1) Have a major in elementary education;

- 1 (2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and
2 practices board that the individual will obtain a middle level
3 endorsement within two years from the date the individual accepts the
4 assignment to teach grade seven or eight; and
- 5 (3) (a) Have a major in each area taught by the individual and defined
6 by the education standards and practices board as a core
7 academic area;
- 8 (b) Have a major equivalency in each area taught by the individual
9 and defined by the education standards and practices board as a
10 core academic area; or
- 11 (c) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor
12 equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and not defined
13 by the education standards and practices board as core
14 academic areas;
- 15 d. (1) Have a major equivalency in elementary education;
- 16 (2) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the education standards and
17 practices board that the individual will obtain a middle level
18 endorsement within two years from the date the individual accepts the
19 assignment to teach grade seven or eight; and
- 20 (3) (a) Have a major in each area taught by the individual and defined
21 by the education standards and practices board as a core
22 academic area; or
- 23 (b) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor
24 equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and not defined
25 by the education standards and practices board as core
26 academic areas; or
- 27 e. Have a secondary content area major; and
- 28 (1) A major in each area taught by the individual and defined by the
29 education standards and practices board as a core academic area;

1 (2) A major equivalency in each area taught by the individual and defined
2 by the education standards and practices board as a core academic
3 area; or

4 (3) Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in
5 each area taught by the individual and not defined by the education
6 standards and practices board as a core academic area.

7 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any individual who was licensed to
8 teach by the education standards and practices board and approved to teach any
9 grade from one through eight before July 1, 2003, may continue to teach in grade
10 seven and eight content areas without obtaining a middle level endorsement,
11 provided the individual meets the requirements of subdivision c or d of
12 subsection 2 of this section.

13 **SECTION 6.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 created and enacted as follows:

15 **High school qualifications.** In order to teach grades seven through twelve, an
16 individual must be licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board and:

- 17 1. Have a major in the areas taught by the individual and defined by the education
18 standards and practices board as core academic areas;
19 2. Have a major equivalency in the areas taught by the individual and defined by the
20 educational standards and practices board as core academic areas; or
21 3. Have a major, a major equivalency, a minor, or a minor equivalency in each area
22 taught by the individual and not defined by the education standards and practices
23 board as a core academic area.

24 **SECTION 7.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 created and enacted as follows:

26 **Specialty areas - Teacher qualification.**

- 27 1. An individual may teach art, business education, computer education, a foreign
28 language, music, physical education, and special education at any grade level from
29 one through eight, provided the individual:
30 a. Is licensed to teach by the education standards and practices board;

- 1 b. Is approved to teach in that area by the education standards and practices
2 board; and
3 c. Meets all requirements set forth in rule by the superintendent of public
4 instruction.
- 5 2. An individual may teach Native American languages provided the individual is an
6 eminence credentialed teacher.
- 7 3. An individual may teach in the areas of trade, industry, technical occupations, or
8 health occupations, provided the individual has been issued a restricted license to
9 teach in such areas by the education standards and practices board.

10 **SECTION 8. REPORT - TEACHER LICENSURE PROCESS.** On or before July 1,
11 2004, the education standards and practices board shall report to a committee designated by
12 the legislative council regarding potential changes to the licensure process.

13 **SECTION 9. REPEAL.** Section 15.1-18-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 repealed.

15 **SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 1 through 7 and section 9 of this Act
16 become effective on July 1, 2008.