

SENATE BILL NO. 2309

Introduced by

Senators Nething, Bakke, Freborg

Representatives Haas, Kaldor, R. Kelsch

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to high school coursework requirements; and to amend and reenact
3 sections 15.1-01-02 and 15.1-21-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to high school
4 graduation requirements and student proficiency.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-01-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-01-02. Joint meetings - State board of public school education - State board
9 of higher education - Education standards and practices board - State board for career**

10 **and technical education.** The state board of public school education, the state board of
11 higher education, the education standards and practices board, and the state board for career
12 and technical education shall meet together at least once each year at the call of the
13 superintendent of public instruction, the commissioner of higher education, the executive
14 director of the education standards and practices board, and the director of career and technical
15 education for the purposes of:

- 16 1. ~~Coordinating~~ Pursuing alignment between elementary and secondary education
17 programs, career and technical education programs, and higher education
18 programs.
- 19 2. Cooperating in the provision of professional growth and development opportunities
20 for elementary and secondary teachers and administrators.
- 21 3. Ensuring cooperation in any other jointly beneficial project or program.
- 22 4. Creating a system within which student proficiency is required and measured in
23 order for students to enter high school, graduate from high school, enter an
24 institution of higher education, and graduate from an institution of higher education.

1 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code
2 is amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **15.1-21-02.1. High school ~~coursework~~ graduation requirements.** Before a school
4 district, a nonpublic high school, or the North Dakota division of independent study issues a
5 high school diploma to a student, the student must have successfully completed at least
6 twenty-one units of high school coursework from the minimum required curriculum offerings
7 established by section 15.1-21-02. Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, the number of
8 units required by this section increases to twenty-two and beginning with the 2011-12 school
9 year, the number of units required by this section increases to twenty-four.

10 **SECTION 3.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 created and enacted as follows:

12 **High school coursework requirements - Higher education admission**
13 **requirements.**

14 1. Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, no student may graduate from a high
15 school in this state or be admitted to an institution of higher education in this state
16 unless the student demonstrates successful completion of the following:

- 17 a. Four units of English language arts;
- 18 b. Three units of mathematics;
- 19 c. Three units of science;
- 20 d. Three units of social studies or multicultural studies;
- 21 e. One unit of physical education;
- 22 f. One unit of a foreign or native American language; and
- 23 g. One unit of fine arts or one unit of career and technical education.

24 2. Beginning with the 2014-15 school year, no student may graduate from a high
25 school in this state or be admitted to an institution of higher education in this state
26 unless the student demonstrates successful completion of the following:

- 27 a. Four units of English language arts;
- 28 b. Four units of mathematics;
- 29 c. Three units of science;
- 30 d. Three units of social studies or multicultural studies;
- 31 e. One unit of physical education;

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- 1 f. Two units of a foreign or native American language; and
- 2 g. Two units of fine arts or two units of career and technical education.