

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1087**

Introduced by

Representatives Nathe, Larson, Schatz, Sanford, Carlson, Hunsakor

Senators Heckaman, Flakoll, Wardner

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-21, relating to the  
2 demonstration of proficiency in civics as a condition of high school graduation.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **High school graduation requirement - Civics test.**

7 1. For purposes of this section, "civics test" means the one hundred questions that, as of  
8 January 1, 2015, officers of the United States citizenship and immigration services use  
9 as the basis for selecting the questions posed to applicants for naturalization, in order  
10 that the applicants can demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the  
11 fundamentals of United States history and the principles and form of United States  
12 government, as required by 8 U.S.C. 1423.

13 2. Before a student may be awarded a high school diploma, the student must correctly  
14 answer at least sixty percent of the questions on the civics test.

15 a. This requirement applies to each student:

16 (1) Enrolled in a public school district;

17 (2) Enrolled in a nonpublic school;

18 (3) Enrolled in the center for distance education;

19 (4) Receiving home education; or

20 (5) Pursuing a general equivalency diploma.

21 b. This requirement does not apply to a student who is exempted in accordance  
22 with the student's individualized education program plan.

- 1        3. The superintendent of public instruction shall, upon request, provide to the person  
2        administering the civics test the correct answer or acceptable answers to each  
3        question.
- 4        4. Each student must be provided with an opportunity to take the civics test at least one  
5        time per school calendar. A student may take the test at any time after enrolling in  
6        grade seven and may repeat the test as often as necessary to demonstrate  
7        proficiency.
- 8        5. Neither the superintendent of public instruction nor a school district may impose or  
9        collect any fees or charges in connection with this section.
- 10       6. This section is applicable to any student who graduates from high school during or  
11       after the 2016-17 school year.