

Introduced by

Senators Heckaman, K. Roers

Representatives Buffalo, Devlin, Vigesaa

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code.
2 relating to mental health awareness and suicide prevention instruction for students in grades
3 seven through twelve; to provide for a review of North Dakota health education content
4 standards and curriculum; and to provide for a legislative management report.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-21-24. Health and wellness curriculum - Content.**

9 Beginning July 1, 2012, each school district and nonpublic school shall ensure that the:

10 1. The portion of its health curriculum which is related to sexual health includes
11 instruction pertaining to the risks associated with adolescent sexual activity and the
12 social, psychological, and physical health gains to be realized by abstaining from
13 sexual activity before and outside of marriage; and

14 2. The district or nonpublic school's health curriculum for all students in grades seven
15 through twelve includes instruction in mental health awareness and suicide prevention,
16 including instruction and information on identifying warning signs and risk factors,
17 identifying at-risk peers, and the availability of resources. To satisfy the requirements
18 of this subsection, a district or nonpublic school may collaborate with other districts
19 and nonpublic schools to share resources and provide the instruction through distance
20 or virtual learning.

21 **SECTION 2. SUPERINTENDENT REVIEW OF HEALTH EDUCATION CONTENTS**

22 **STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** During the
23 2021-22 interim, the superintendent of public instruction shall review the North Dakota health
24 education content standards and curriculum for students enrolled in kindergarten through grade

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- 1 twelve to ensure the age-appropriate content standards and curriculum are current and reflect
- 2 best practices, including a review of mental health awareness and suicide prevention with a
- 3 focus on identifiable warning signs and risk factors, and identifying at-risk peers. Before July 1,
- 4 2022, the superintendent of public instruction shall report the findings and recommendations of
- 5 the review to the legislative management.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2311

Page 1, line 1, after "to" insert "amend and reenact section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to mental health awareness and suicide prevention instruction for students in grades seven through twelve; to"

Page 1, after line 3, insert:

"SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-21-24. Health and wellness curriculum - Content.

Beginning July 1, 2012, each school district and nonpublic school shall ensure that the:

1. The portion of its health curriculum which is related to sexual health includes instruction pertaining to the risks associated with adolescent sexual activity and the social, psychological, and physical health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity before and outside of marriage; and
2. The district or nonpublic school's health curriculum for all students in grades seven through twelve includes instruction in mental health awareness and suicide prevention, including instruction and information on identifying warning signs and risk factors, identifying at-risk peers, and the availability of resources. To satisfy the requirements of this subsection, a district or nonpublic school may collaborate with other districts and nonpublic schools to share resources and provide the instruction through distance or virtual learning."

Renumber accordingly

