

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2340

Introduced by

Senators Axtman, Elkin, Schaible

Representatives Bosch, Hauck, Heinert

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to required school counselors; to provide an expiration date; and to declare an
3 emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-06-19. Counselor positions - Requirement.**

8 1. ~~Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, each~~Each school district must have available
9 one full-time equivalent school counselor or contract for services equivalent to one
10 full-time equivalent school counselor for every three hundred students in grades seven
11 through twelve.

12 2. ~~Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, each~~Each school district must have available
13 one full-time equivalent school counselor or contract for services equivalent to one
14 full-time equivalent school counselor for every three hundred students in grades
15 kindergarten through six.

16 3. Up to one-third of the full-time equivalency requirement established in subsection 1
17 may be met by career advisors.

18 4. For purposes of this section, a "career advisor" means an individual who holds a
19 certificate in career development facilitation issued by the department of career and
20 technical education under section 15-20.1-24 or an individual who is provisionally
21 approved by the department of career and technical education under section
22 15-20.1-25 to serve as a career advisor.

23 5. A school district shall attempt to meet the three hundred to one ratio requirements
24 under subsections 1 and 2 with an individual who meets the requirements of an

1 approved program of graduate study in school guidance and counseling from a college
2 or university approved by the education standards and practices board. If a school
3 district is unable to meet the ratio requirements under subsections 1 and 2, for the
4 purposes of qualifying for the three hundred to one ratio, positions may be filled by a
5 school psychologist recognized by the education standards and practices board,
6 licensed social worker, licensed professional counselor, licensed marriage and family
7 therapist, licensed psychologist, licensed vocational rehabilitation counselor, or
8 licensed addiction counselor.

9 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through August 1, 2027, and after
10 that date is ineffective.

11 **SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.