

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1456

Introduced by

Representatives S. Olson, Schauer, K. Anderson, McLeod, Meier, Rohr, Steiner

Senators Boehm, Clemens, Larson, Paulson, Weston

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to school chaplains in public school districts.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Certified chaplains - School district policy - Requirements.**

- 7 1. As used in this section, "certified chaplain" means a chaplain certified by a national or
8 state chaplaincy organization or ecclesiastically endorsed by a religious organization.
9 2. A school district may employ or accept as a volunteer a certified chaplain to provide
10 support, services, and programs for a student, staff member, or legal guardian of a
11 student as authorized by the board of a school district.
12 3. A certified chaplain employed or volunteering under this section is not required to be
13 licensed by the education standards and practices board.
14 4. The board of a school district shall obtain a criminal history record check from the
15 bureau of criminal investigation for each individual hired or volunteering under this
16 section. All costs associated with a background check are the responsibility of the
17 board under section 12-60-24.
18 5. A school district may not employ or accept as a volunteer under this section an
19 individual who is required to register under section 12.1-32-15.
20 6. A cause of action does not arise against a certified chaplain for an action taken or
21 statement made while providing support, services, or programs for a student, staff
22 member, or legal guardian of a student, unless the action or statement was

- 1 maliciously, willfully, and deliberately intended to cause harm to, harass, or intimidate
- 2 an individual seeking the support, services, or programs provided by the certified
- 3 chaplain.