25.0716.03001 Title.04000 Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for House Appropriations Committee

February 21, 2025

Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT

# **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1369**

Introduced by

Representatives Heinert, Richter

Senators Lemm, Schaible

- 1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections <del>15.1-27-03.1,</del> 15.1-27-04.1, <u>15.1-27-35.</u>
- 2 48-01.2-02.1, and 57-15-14.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to weighted average
- 3 daily membership, the determination of state aid, the calculation of average daily membership,
- 4 public improvement construction, and school district levies; to provide for a transfer; and to
- 5 provide an effective date.

## 6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

7 SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-27-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is-8 amended and reenacted as follows: 9 15.1-27-03.1. Weighted average daily membership - Determination. 10 For each school district, the superintendent of public instruction shall multiply by: 11 1.00 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an extended 12 educational program in accordance with section 15.1-32-17; 13 -0.60 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a summer education-14 program, including a migrant summer education program; 15 0.40 the number of full-time equivalent students who: 16 (1) On a test of English language proficiency approved by the superintendent of 17 public instruction are determined to be least proficient and placed in the first 18 of six categories of proficiency; and 19 (2) Are enrolled in a program of instruction for English language learners; 20 0.28 the number of full-time equivalent students who:

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1	(1) On a test of English language proficiency approved by the superintendent of
2	public instruction are determined to be more proficient than students placed
3	in the first of six categories of proficiency and therefore placed in the second-
4	of six categories of proficiency; and
5	(2) Are enrolled in a program of instruction for English language learners;
6	e. 0.25 the number of full-time equivalent students under the age of twenty-one
7	enrolled in grades nine through twelve in an alternative high school;
8	f. 0.20 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a home-based
9	education program and monitored by the school district under chapter 15.1-23;
10	g. 0.17 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an early childhood
11	special education program;
12	h. 0.15 the number of full-time equivalent students in grades six through eight
13	enrolled in an alternative education program for at least an average of fifteen
14	hours per week;
15	i. 0.10 the number of students enrolled in average daily membership, if the district
16	has fewer than one hundred students enrolled in average daily membership and
17	the district consists of an area greater than two hundred seventy-five square
18	miles [19424.9 hectares], provided that any school district consisting of an area
19	greater than six hundred square miles [155399 hectares] and enrolling fewer than
20	fifty students in average daily membership must be deemed to have an
21	enrollment equal to fifty students in average daily membership;
22	j. 0.088 <u>0.095</u> the number of students enrolled in average daily membership, in
23	order to support the provision of special education services;
24	k. 0.07 the number of full-time equivalent students who:
25	(1) On a test of English language proficiency approved by the superintendent of
26	public instruction are determined to be more proficient than students placed
27	in the second of six categories of proficiency and therefore placed in the
28	third of six categories of proficiency;
29	(2) Are enrolled in a program of instruction for English language learners; and
30	(3) Have not been in the third of six categories of proficiency for more than
31	three years;

1		I. 0.025 the number of students representing that percentage of the total number of
2		students in average daily membership which is equivalent to the three-year
3		average percentage of students in grades three through eight who are eligible for
4		free or reduced lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
5		[42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.];
6		m. 0.002 the number of students enrolled in average daily membership in a school
7		district that is a participating member of a regional education association meeting-
8		the requirements of chapter 15.1-09.1;
9		n. 1.0 the number of students by which the district's September tenth enrollment-
10		report exceeds the number of students in the prior year's average daily
11		membership; and
12		o. For districts paid based on September tenth enrollment in the prior year, 1.00 the
13		number of students determined by deducting the number of students in the prior
14		year's September tenth enrollment from the prior year's average daily
15		membership. If the prior year's September tenth enrollment exceeds the prior
16		year's average daily membership, then a deduction of 1.00 the number of excess-
17		students.
18	<del>2.</del>	The superintendent of public instruction shall determine each school district's weighted
19		average daily membership by adding the products derived under subsection 1 to the
20		district's average daily membership.
21	SEC	TION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-27-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22	amended	d and reenacted as follows:
23	15.1	-27-04.1. Baseline funding - Establishment - Determination of state aid. (Effective
24	through	June 30, 2025) (Retroactive application - See note)
25	<del>1.</del>	To determine the amount of state aid payable to each district, the superintendent of
26		public instruction shall establish each district's baseline funding. A district's baseline
27		funding consists of:
28		a. All state aid received by the district in accordance with chapter 15.1-27 during the
29		<del>2018-19 school year;</del>
30		b. An amount equal to the property tax deducted by the superintendent of public-
31		instruction to determine the 2018-19 state aid payment:

1 An amount equal to seventy-five percent of the revenue received by the school-2 district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types: 3 Revenue reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district 4 financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the 5 superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08; 6 <del>(2)</del> Mineral revenue received by the school district through direct allocation from-7 the state treasurer and not reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota-8 school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by 9 the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 10 <del>15.1-02-08;</del> 11 Tuition reported under code 1300 of the North Dakota school district 12 financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the 13 superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08, 14 with the exception of revenue received specifically for the operation of an-15 educational program provided at a residential treatment facility, tuition-16 received for the provision of an adult farm management program, and-17 beginning in the 2021-22 school year, seventeen percent of tuition received 18 under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an-19 air force base with funding received through federal impact aid, and an-20 additional seventeen percent of tuition received under an agreement to 21 educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding-22 received through federal impact aid each school year thereafter, until the 23 2024-25 school year when sixty-eight percent of tuition received under an 24 agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base 25 with funding received through federal impact aid must be excluded from the 26 tuition calculation under this paragraph; 27 <del>(4)</del> Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on the distribution and transmission-28 of electric power; 29 Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on electricity generated from 30 sources other than coal; and

1 (6) Revenue from the leasing of land acquired by the United States for which 2 compensation is allocated to the state under 33 U.S.C. 701(c)(3); 3 d. An amount equal to the total revenue received by the school district during the 4 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types: 5 Mobile home tax revenue: <del>(1)</del> 6 (2)Telecommunications tax revenue; and 7 <del>(3)</del> Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes and state reimbursement of the 8 homestead credit and disabled veterans credit; and 9 Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall reduce the e. 10 baseline funding for any school district that becomes an elementary district 11 pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2012-13 school year. The reduction must-12 be proportional to the number of weighted student units in the grades that are 13 offered through another school district relative to the total number of weighted-14 student units the school district offered in the year before the school district 15 became an elementary district. The reduced baseline funding applies to the 16 calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district 17 becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter. For districts that 18 become an elementary district prior to the 2020-21 school year, the 19 superintendent shall use the reduced baseline funding to calculate state aid for-20 the 2020-21 school year and for each year thereafter. 21 <del>2.</del> <del>a.</del> The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in 22 subsection 1 by the district's 2017-18 weighted student units to determine the 23 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit. 24 <del>b.</del> For any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section-25 15.1-07-27 after the 2017-18 school year, the superintendent shall adjust the 26 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit used to calculate state aid. 27 The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in-28 subsection 1 by the district's weighted student units after the school district 29 becomes an elementary district to determine the district's adjusted baseline 30 funding per weighted student unit. The superintendent shall use the district's 31 adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit in the calculation of state aid-

1 for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary 2 district and for each year thereafter. 3 <del>C.</del> Beginning with the 2021-22 school year and for each school year thereafter, the 4 superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student 5 unit. Each year the superintendent shall calculate the amount by which the 6 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per-7 weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. For the 2023-24 school year the 8 superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student-9 unit by forty percent of the amount by which the district's baseline funding per-10 weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit for the 11 2023-24 school year. For each year thereafter, the reduction percentage is 12 increased by an additional fifteen percent. However, the district's baseline funding-13 per weighted student unit, after the reduction, may not be less than the payment 14 per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. 15 <del>3.</del> For the 2023-24 school year, the superintendent shall calculate state aid as the 16 greater of: 17 The district's weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand six hundred-18 forty-six dollars; 19 One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted-<del>(2)</del> 20 student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's 21 weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline 22 weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the 23 2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand 24 six hundred forty-six dollars; or 25 <del>(3)</del> The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the 26 amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by forty percent and 27 then the difference added to the amount determined in paragraph 1. 28 <del>b.</del> For the 2024-25 school year and each school year thereafter, the superintendent 29 shall calculate state aid as the greater of: 30 The district's weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand-31 seventy-two dollars;

1 (2) One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted 2 student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's 3 weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline 4 weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the 5 2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand 6 seventy-two dollars; or 7 (3)The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the 8 amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by fifty-five percent for-9 the 2024-25 school year and the reduction percentage increasing by fifteen 10 percent each school year thereafter until the difference is reduced to zero, 11 and then the difference added to the amount determined in paragraph 1. 12 4. After determining the product in accordance with subsection 3, the superintendent of 13 public instruction shall: 14 Subtract an amount equal to sixty mills multiplied by the taxable valuation of the 15 school district, except the amount in dollars subtracted for purposes of this-16 subdivision may not exceed the previous year's amount in dollars subtracted for-17 purposes of this subdivision by more than twelve percent, adjusted pursuant to-18 section 15.1-27-04.3; and 19 Subtract an amount equal to seventy-five percent of all revenue types listed in <del>b.</del> 20 subdivisions c and d of subsection 1. Before determining the deduction for 21 seventy-five percent of all revenue types, the superintendent of public instruction-22 shall adjust revenues as follows: 23 Tuition revenue shall be adjusted as follows: 24 <del>(a)</del> In addition to deducting tuition revenue received specifically for the 25 operation of an educational program provided at a residential 26 treatment facility, tuition revenue received for the provision of an adult-27 farm management program, tuition received for the education of 28 high-cost and special education students, and tuition received under-29 an agreement to educate students from a school district on an-30 air force base with funding received through federal impact aid as-

directed each school year in paragraph 3 of subdivision c of

ı		subsection 1, the superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce						
2		the total tuition reported by the school district by the amount of tuition						
3		revenue received for the education of students not residing in the						
4		state and for which the state has not entered a cross-border education						
5		<del>contract; and</del>						
6		(b) The superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce the total						
7		tuition reported by admitting school districts meeting the requirements						
8		of subdivision e of subsection 2 of section 15.1-29-12 by the amount						
9		of tuition revenue received for the education of students residing in an						
10		adjacent school district.						
11		(2) After adjusting tuition revenue as provided in paragraph 1, the						
12		superintendent shall reduce all remaining revenues from all revenue types-						
13		by the percentage of mills levied in 2022 by the school district for sinking						
14		and interest relative to the total mills levied in 2022 by the school district for						
15		all purposes.						
16	<del>5.</del>	The amount remaining after the computation required under subsection 4 is the						
17		amount of state aid to which a school district is entitled, subject to any other statutory						
18		requirements or limitations.						
19	<del>6.</del>	On or before June thirtieth of each year, the school board shall certify to the						
20		superintendent of public instruction the final average daily membership for the current-						
21		school year.						
22	<del>7.</del>	For purposes of the calculation in subsection 4, each county auditor, in collaboration						
23		with the school districts, shall report the following to the superintendent of public-						
24		instruction on an annual basis:						
25		a. The amount of revenue received by each school district in the county during the						
26		previous school year for each type of revenue identified in subdivisions c and d of						
27		subsection 1;						
28		b. The total number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school						
29		district for all purposes; and						
30		c. The number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district						
31		for sinking and interest fund purposes.						

# 1 Baseline funding - Establishment - Determination of state aid. (Effective after

# June 30, 2025)

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- To determine the amount of state aid payable to each district, the superintendent of public instruction shall establish each district's baseline funding. A district's baseline funding consists of:
  - All state aid received by the district in accordance with chapter 15.1-27 during the
    2018-19 school year;
  - An amount equal to the property tax deducted by the superintendent of public instruction to determine the 2018-19 state aid payment;
  - c. An amount equal to seventy-five percent of the revenue received by the school district during the 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types:
    - (1) Revenue reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
    - (2) Mineral revenue received by the school district through direct allocation from the state treasurer and not reported under code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08;
    - (3) Tuition reported under code 1300 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual, as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with section 15.1-02-08, with the exception of revenue received specifically for the operation of an educational program provided at a residential treatment facility, tuition received for the provision of an adult farm management program, and beginning in the 2025-26 school year, eighty-five percent of tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid, until the 2026-27 school year, and each school year thereafter, when all tuition received under an agreement to educate students from a school district on

1 an air force base with funding received through federal impact aid must be 2 excluded from the tuition calculation under this paragraph; 3 (4) Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on the distribution and transmission 4 of electric power; 5 Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes on electricity generated from (5) 6 sources other than coal; and 7 (6) Revenue from the leasing of land acquired by the United States for which 8 compensation is allocated to the state under 33 U.S.C. 701(c)(3); and 9 d. An amount equal to the total revenue received by the school district during the 10 2017-18 school year for the following revenue types: 11 Mobile home tax revenue: 12 (2) Telecommunications tax revenue; and 13 Revenue from payments in lieu of taxes and state reimbursement of the 14 homestead credit and disabled veterans credit: and 15 e. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, the superintendent shall reduce the 16 baseline funding for any school district that becomes an elementary district 17 pursuant to section 15.1-07-27 after the 2012-13 school year. The reduction must 18 be proportional to the number of weighted student units in the grades that are 19 offered through another school district relative to the total number of weighted 20 student units the school district offered in the year before the school district 21 became an elementary district. The reduced baseline funding applies to the 22 calculation of state aid for the first school year in which the school district 23 becomes an elementary district and for each year thereafter. For districts that 24 become an elementary district prior to the 2020-21 school year, the 25 superintendent shall use the reduced baseline funding to calculate state aid for 26 the 2020-21 school year and for each year thereafter. 27 2. The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in a. 28 subsection 1 by the district's 2017-18 weighted student units to determine the 29 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit. 30 b. For any school district that becomes an elementary district pursuant to section 31 15.1-07-27 after the 2017-18 school year, the superintendent shall adjust the

1 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit used to calculate state aid. 2 The superintendent shall divide the district's baseline funding determined in 3 subsection 1 by the district's weighted student units after the school district 4 becomes an elementary district to determine the district's adjusted baseline 5 funding per weighted student unit. The superintendent shall use the district's 6 adjusted baseline funding per weighted student unit in the calculation of state aid 7 for the first school year in which the school district becomes an elementary 8 district and for each year thereafter. 9 Beginning with the 2021-22 school year and for each school year thereafter, the C. 10 superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student 11 unit. Each year the superintendent shall calculate the amount by which the 12 district's baseline funding per weighted student unit exceeds the payment per 13 weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. For the 2023-24 school year the 14 superintendent shall reduce the district's baseline funding per weighted student 15 unit by forty percent of the amount by which the district's baseline funding per 16 weighted student unit exceeds the payment per weighted student unit for the 17 2023-24 school year. For each year thereafter, the reduction percentage is 18 increased by an additional fifteen percent. However, the district's baseline funding 19 per weighted student unit, after the reduction, may not be less than the payment 20 per weighted student unit provided in subsection 3. 21 3. a. For the <del>2023-24</del>2025-26 school year, the superintendent shall calculate state aid 22 as the greater of: 23 The district's weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand six hundred (1) 24 forty-sixeleven thousand four hundred foureleven thousand two hundred 25 ninety-three dollars; 26 One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted (2) 27 student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's 28 weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline 29 weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the

2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by ten thousand-

1					six hundred forty-sixeleven thousand four hundred foureleven thousand two				
2					hundred ninety-three dollars; or				
3				(3)	The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the				
4					amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by fortyseventy percent				
5					and then the difference added to the amount determined in paragraph 1.				
6			b.	For	the <del>2024-25</del> <u>2026-27</u> school year and each school year thereafter, the				
7			superintendent shall calculate state aid as the greater of:						
8	i			(1)	The district's weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand				
9					seventy-twoseven hundred forty-sixfive hundred nineteen dollars;				
10				(2)	One hundred two percent of the district's baseline funding per weighted				
11					student unit, as established in subsection 2, multiplied by the district's				
12					weighted student units, not to exceed the district's 2017-18 baseline				
13					weighted student units, plus any weighted student units in excess of the				
14	1				2017-18 baseline weighted student units multiplied by eleven thousand				
15					seventy-twoseven hundred forty-sixfive hundred nineteen dollars; or				
16				(3)	The district's baseline funding as established in subsection 1 less the				
17					amount in paragraph 1, with the difference reduced by fifty-five eighty-five				
18					percent for the 2024-252026-27 school year and the reduction percentage				
19					increasing by fifteen percent each school year thereafter until the difference				
20					is reduced to zero, and then the difference added to the amount determined				
21					in paragraph 1.				
22		4.	Afte	After determining the product in accordance with subsection 3, the superintendent of					
23			pub	lic ins	struction shall:				
24			a.	Sub	tract an amount equal to sixty mills multiplied by the taxable valuation of the				
25				scho	pol district; and				
26			b.	Sub	tract an amount equal to seventy-five percent of all revenue types listed in				
27				subo	divisions c and dsubdivision c and paragraphs 1 and 2 of subdivision d of				
28				subs	section 1 and revenue from payments in lieu of taxes. Before determining the				
29				ded	uction for seventy-five percent of all revenue types, the superintendent of				
30				publ	lic instruction shall adjust revenues as follows:				
31				(1)	Tuition revenue shall be adjusted as follows:				

school year.

1 In addition to deducting tuition revenue received specifically for the (a) 2 operation of an educational program provided at a residential 3 treatment facility, tuition revenue received for the provision of an adult 4 farm management program, tuition received for the education of 5 high-cost and special education students, and tuition received under 6 an agreement to educate students from a school district on an 7 air force base with funding received through federal impact aid as 8 directed each school year in paragraph 3 of subdivision c of 9 subsection 1, the superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce 10 the total tuition reported by the school district by the amount of tuition 11 revenue received for the education of students not residing in the 12 state and for which the state has not entered a cross-border education 13 contract; and 14 The superintendent of public instruction also shall reduce the total (b) 15 tuition reported by admitting school districts meeting the requirements 16 of subdivision e of subsection 2 of section 15.1-29-12 by the amount 17 of tuition revenue received for the education of students residing in an 18 adjacent school district. 19 (2) After adjusting tuition revenue as provided in paragraph 1, the 20 superintendent shall reduce all remaining revenues from all revenue types 21 by the percentage of mills levied in 20222024 by the school district for 22 sinking and interest relative to the total mills levied in 20222024 by the 23 school district for all purposes. 24 5. The amount remaining after the computation required under subsection 4 is the 25 amount of state aid to which a school district is entitled, subject to any other statutory 26 requirements or limitations. 27 On or before June thirtieth of each year, the school board shall certify to the 28 superintendent of public instruction the final average daily membership for the current

1 For purposes of the calculation in subsection 4, each county auditor, in collaboration 2 with the school districts, shall report the following to the superintendent of public 3 instruction on an annual basis: 4 The amount of revenue received by each school district in the county during the 5 previous school year for each type of revenue identified in subdivisions c and d of 6 subsection 1; 7 The total number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school b. 8 district for all purposes; and 9 The number of mills levied in the previous calendar year by each school district C. 10 for sinking and interest fund purposes. 11 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-35 of the North Dakota Century Code is 12 amended and reenacted as follows: 13 15.1-27-35. Average daily membership - Calculation. 14 Average daily membership is calculated at the conclusion of the school year by adding 15 the total number of hours that each student in a given grade, school, or school district 16 is in attendance at the school's physical plant during a school calendar and the total 17 number of hours that each student in a given grade, school, or school district is absent 18 during a school calendar, and then dividing the sum by: 19 Nine hundred sixty-two and one-half hours for elementary school students; or a. 20 One thousand fifty hours for middle and high school students. b. 21 2. For purposes of calculating average daily membership: 22 A student enrolled full time in any grade from one through twelve may not exceed a. 23 an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be prorated for a 24 student who is enrolled less than full time. 25 b. A student enrolled full time in an approved regular education kindergarten 26 program may not exceed an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership 27 may be prorated for a student who is enrolled less than full time. 28 A student enrolled full time, as defined by the superintendent of public instruction, 29 in an approved early childhood special education program may not exceed an 30 average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be prorated for a

student who is enrolled less than full time.

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- d. A student enrolled full time in virtual instruction is calculated at an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be prorated for a student who is enrolled less than full time.
- 3. For purposes of determining state aid pursuant to section 15.1-27-04.1, average daily membership is the greater of:
  - a. The amount calculated in subsections 1 and 2 of this section; or
  - b. The average of the amounts calculated in subsections 1 and 2 of this section for the prior three years.

**SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 48-01.2-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

# 48-01.2-02.1. Public improvement construction threshold.

- 1. The threshold for bidding construction of a public improvement is two hundred <u>fifty</u> thousand dollars. The threshold for procuring plans, drawings, <del>and</del> specifications, <u>and</u> bonding from an architect or engineer for construction of a public improvement is two hundred fifty thousand dollars.
- 2. Notwithstanding the thresholds in subsection 1, if the state or a political subdivision undertakes the construction of a public improvement and there is reason to believe that engineering or architectural services are necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the public, the state or political subdivision shall consider consulting with an engineer or architect.

**SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 57-15-14.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

## 57-15-14.2. School district levies.

- 1. The board of a school district may levy a tax not exceeding the amount in dollars that the school district levied for the prior year, plus twelve percent, up to a levy of seventy mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for any purpose related to the provision of educational services. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into the school district's general fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.
- 2. The board of a school district may levy no more than twelve mills on the taxable valuation of the district, for miscellaneous purposes and expenses. The proceeds of

- this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the miscellaneous fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.
  - The board of a school district may levy no more than three mills on the taxable valuation of the district for deposit into a special reserve fund, in accordance with chapter 57-19.
  - 4. The board of a school district may levy no more than the number of mills necessary, on the taxable valuation of the district, for the payment of tuition, in accordance with section 15.1-29-15. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the tuition fund and used in accordance with this subsection. The proceeds may not be transferred into any other fund.
  - 5. The board of a school district may levy no more than five mills on the taxable valuation of the district, pursuant to section 57-15-15.1, for purposes of developing a school safety plan in accordance with section 15.1-09-60. The proceeds of this levy must be deposited into a special fund known as the school safety plan fund and used in accordance with this subsection.
  - 6. Nothing in this section limits the board of a school district from levying:
    - a. Mills for a building fund, as permitted in sections 15.1-09-49 and 57-15-16; and
    - b. Mills necessary to pay principal and interest on the bonded debt of the district, including the mills necessary to pay principal and interest on any bonded debt incurred under section 57-15-17.1 before July 1, 2013.

# SECTION 5. TRANSFER - FOUNDATION AID STABILIZATION FUND TO SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE REVOLVING LOAN FUND. The office of management and budget shall transfer the sum of \$100,000,000\$75,000,000 from the foundation aid stabilization fund to the school construction assistance revolving loan fund during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

**SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 4 of this Act is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.