

**SENATE BILL NO. 2362**

Introduced by

Senators Schaible, Lemm, Weber

Representatives Jonas, Pyle

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-02-11 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to the accreditation of schools.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-02-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-02-11. Superintendent of public instruction - Accreditation of schools - Rules.**

7 1. The superintendent of public instruction ~~may~~:

8 a. May adopt rules governing the accreditation of public and nonpublic schools. Any  
9 rule adopted under this section must incorporate measures of student  
10 achievement and bear a direct relationship to improving student achievement.

11 b. May provide schools with a choice of accreditation options, including:

12 (1) Accreditation through a state-defined accreditation process established by  
13 the superintendent of public instruction; or

14 (2) Accreditation through a nationally recognized accrediting organization, a  
15 formal school improvement organization, or a continuous improvement  
16 organization approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

17 c. Shall establish a process to select the accreditation options for schools and a  
18 process for schools to select an accreditation option. Development of the process  
19 must include input and participation from a steering committee, including  
20 representatives of education stakeholder groups, including North Dakota united  
21 and state associations of school administrators; secondary and elementary  
22 school principals; and the North Dakota school boards association.

23 d. Periodically shall review and evaluate the effectiveness of each accreditation  
24 option in improving student achievement and school performance.

- 1        2. Each accreditation option must:
- 2            a. Meet or exceed the state standards to ensure consistency in the quality of
- 3            education.
- 4            b. Provide measurable outcomes for student achievement, aligning with the state
- 5            goals.
- 6        3. A school may select the accreditation option best aligning to the instructional goals
- 7            and operational needs of the school, subject to approval by the superintendent of
- 8            public instruction.