

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.