

February 17, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

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~~~~May~~ 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~~~~may~~ include input and participation from a steering committee, including
20 ~~representatives of education stakeholder groups, including North Dakota united~~

- 1 and state associations of school administrators; secondary and elementary
2 school principals; and the North Dakota school boards association board
3 members.
- 4 d. Periodically shall review and evaluate the effectiveness of each accreditation
5 option in improving student achievement and school performance.
- 6 2. Each accreditation option must:
- 7 a. Meet or exceed the state standards to ensure consistency in the quality of
8 education.
- 9 b. Provide measurable outcomes for student achievement, aligning with the state
10 goals.
- 11 3. A school may select the accreditation option best aligning to the instructional goals
12 and operational needs of the school, subject to approval by the superintendent of
13 public instruction.
- 14 4. The superintendent of public instruction shall contract with an accreditation
15 organization or vendor to create state-provided accreditation to offer to each public
16 school district at no charge.
- 17 5. If a district chooses to use an accreditation process from the state-approved list, the
18 district is responsible for any accreditation-related costs.