

February 18, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

### HOUSE BILL NO. 1329

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

1 A BILL for an Act to ~~create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-02 and a new section to~~  
2 ~~chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to duties of the superintendent of~~  
3 ~~public instruction and~~ provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of  
4 a government spending database; and to provide an appropriation; ~~and to provide an effective~~  
5 ~~date.~~

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

7 ~~SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
8 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

9 ~~Training of school officials:~~

10 ~~The superintendent of public instruction shall:~~

11 ~~1. Contract for training services for school board members, superintendents, principals,~~  
12 ~~and business managers relating to the requirements of section 2 of this Act.~~

13 ~~2. Ensure the training includes academic best practices, personnel management,~~  
14 ~~financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.~~

15 ~~SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
16 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

17 ~~Government spending database - Requirements - State treasurer - Office of~~  
18 ~~management and budget - Superintendent of public instruction:~~

19 ~~1. As used in this section, "submitting party" means:~~

20 ~~a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04;~~

- 1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. A political subdivision;~~
- 2 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. A school district; and~~
- 3 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education.~~
- 4 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The state treasurer shall collect data from submitting parties and establish and~~
- 5 ~~maintain a government spending database that is accessible without cost through the~~
- 6 ~~internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from submitting parties. The~~
- 7 ~~data must be updated at least monthly.~~
- 8 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 3. The database must include for each expenditure:~~
- 9 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. The amount paid;~~
- 10 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. The payment date;~~
- 11 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. The recipient name;~~
- 12 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. The paying entity;~~
- 13 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment;~~
- 14 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:~~
- 15 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (1) A description of curriculum;~~
- 16 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) The publisher and author of a textbook;~~
- 17 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification;~~
- 18 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state~~
- 19 ~~and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school~~
- 20 ~~districts and institutions of higher education.~~
- 21 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 4. The database must provide:~~
- 22 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. Search capabilities;~~
- 23 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Data aggregation tools;~~
- 24 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Download options in common formats;~~
- 25 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. Anonymous salary and benefit information;~~
- 26 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ e. Regular updates of all information.~~
- 27 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 5. The office of management and budget, in coordination with the state treasurer shall~~
- 28 ~~establish data submission standards for the submitting parties, develop security~~
- 29 ~~protocols, create reporting schedules, and ensure compliance with section 44-04-18.~~

~~6. A submitting party shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this section.~~

#### **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

**DATABASE.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:

1. A review of the training services necessary for school board members, superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.
2. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information for each expenditure:
  - a. The amount paid.
  - b. The payment date.
  - c. The recipient name.
  - d. The paying entity.
  - e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.
  - f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:
    - (1) A description of curriculum.
    - (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.
    - (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.
  - g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school districts and institutions of higher education.
3. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:
  - a. Search capabilities.
  - b. Data aggregation tools.
  - c. Download options in common formats.
  - d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.
  - e. Regular updates of all information.

The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - ~~STATE TREASURER~~LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL -  
CONSULTANTS FOR INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY -  
ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$350,000~~\$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the ~~state treasurer~~legislative council for the purpose of ~~establishing and maintaining~~contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.

~~SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act become effective July 1, 2026.~~