

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1129

Introduced by

Representatives Richter, Mitskog, Murphy, O'Brien, Schauer

Senators Boschee, Meyer, Sickler

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of public instruction ~~for a study~~
2 ~~ef to address~~ student attendance and absenteeism; ~~to provide for a superintendent of public~~
3 ~~instruction study; and to provide for a legislative management report.~~

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

5 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - STUDENT**
6 **ATTENDANCE AND ABSENTEEISM-~~STUDY~~ - ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated
7 out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum
8 of ~~\$1,250,000~~\$1,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of
9 public instruction for the purpose of ~~studying~~addressing student attendance and absenteeism in
10 kindergarten through grade twelve public schools, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and
11 ending June 30, 2027. ~~Up to \$250,000 may be used for the purpose of contracting a research~~
12 ~~team from a North Dakota research university to assist with the study. The funding provided in~~
13 ~~this section is considered a one-time funding item.~~

14 ~~SECTION 2. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION STUDY- STUDENT~~
15 ~~ATTENDANCE AND ABSENTEEISM - REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.~~

16 ~~1. In the first year of the 2025-27 biennium, the superintendent of public instruction, in~~
17 ~~collaboration and consultation with a research team from a North Dakota research~~
18 ~~university, shall study student attendance and absenteeism, including chronic~~
19 ~~absenteeism in kindergarten through grade twelve public schools. The research team~~
20 ~~shall use existing quantitative data shared with the university by the department of~~

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- 1 ~~public instruction and collect additional qualitative and quantitative data as needed.~~
- 2 ~~The study must include analysis of data from school districts with high attendance~~
- 3 ~~rates to identify any strategies that result in high attendance rates.~~
- 4 ~~2.~~ ~~In the second year of the 2025-27 biennium, the superintendent of public instruction~~
- 5 ~~shall identify school districts with chronic absenteeism and implement appropriate~~
- 6 ~~strategies to improve student attendance.~~
- 7 ~~3.~~ ~~The superintendent of public instruction shall report its findings and~~
- 8 ~~recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the~~
- 9 ~~recommendations, to the legislative management on or before September 1, 2026.~~