

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 25-06-01, 25-06-02, and 25-06-05 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to the name of the school for the blind, duties of the school for
3 the blind, and services to nonresidents; and to repeal sections 25-06-04, 25-06-07, and
4 25-06-09 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to qualifications for admission, instruction
5 at the school for the blind, and duty to report blind persons.

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

7 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 25-06-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
8 amended and reenacted as follows:

9 **25-06-01. North Dakota vision services - school for the blind - Maintained -**
10 **Location.** There must be maintained at Grand Forks, in Grand Forks County, ~~an institution a~~
11 resource and referral center for the education and training of ~~the~~ residents of this state who are
12 blind or visually impaired which must be known as the North Dakota vision services - school for
13 the blind.

14 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 25-06-02 of the 1999 Supplement to the North
15 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

16 **25-06-02. ~~Object~~ Blind individual defined - Duties and responsibilities of North**
17 **Dakota vision services - school for the blind.** ~~The~~ For purposes of this chapter, a blind
18 individual is an individual who is totally blind or whose central visual acuity does not exceed
19 twenty/two hundred in the better eye with corrective lenses, or the widest diameter of the visual
20 field is no greater than twenty degrees; and a visually impaired individual is an individual with
21 an impairment in vision which, even with correction, adversely affects the individual's functional
22 ability. North Dakota vision services - school for the blind is ~~a statewide resource center for the~~
23 ~~provision of services to residents of this state, including vision specific consultations,~~
24 ~~evaluations, information, and training and loans of adaptive devices, equipment, and materials.~~

~~It shall receive and educate blind and partially blind children who are residents of this state and who, because of this handicap, are not able to receive an appropriate education in the public schools of this state~~ the lead state agency for services to blind or visually impaired individuals.

North Dakota vision services - school for the blind shall:

1. Collect and distribute information on vision services programs available in the state.
2. Assist residents to access appropriate vision services, including services available from North Dakota vision services - school for the blind, vocational rehabilitation division, independent living centers, infant development programs, developmental disabilities programs, and local education programs.
3. Provide vision services, including vision-specific consultations, evaluations, information, training, and loans of adaptive devices, equipment, and materials.
4. Maintain a data base of blind or visually impaired residents.
5. Seek and accept funding available from all sources, including the vocational rehabilitation division of the department of human services for the vision services provided to eligible blind or visually impaired individuals.
6. Provide vision-specific education services, including instruction in orientation, mobility, braille, braille music, daily living skills, technology, vocational training, and recreation.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 25-06-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

25-06-05. Admission of Services to nonresidents. ~~Blind children of suitable age~~ Individuals who are not residents of this state may ~~enroll in the~~ receive services from North Dakota vision services - school for the blind upon payment in advance of the cost of the ~~education services~~ as determined by the superintendent of public instruction. ~~Nonresident children, however,~~ Nonresidents may not ~~be received~~ receive services to the exclusion of ~~children who are residents of this state.~~

SECTION 4. REPEAL. Sections 25-06-04, 25-06-07, and 25-06-09 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

SECTION 5. STATUTORY REFERENCES RELATING TO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND. The legislative council may insert or replace appropriate references to the school for

1 the blind in North Dakota Century Code sections, consistent with usages contained in this Act.
2 References inserted may be adjusted to suit the context and grammar of the sections and must
3 be inserted so as to harmonize existing law with regard to the name change provided by this
4 Act. The sections of the North Dakota Century Code to which the authority of this section
5 applies include 15-34.1-02, 15-39-01, 15-39.1-04, 15-47-26, 15-47-27.2, 15-47-34, 15-59-05.1,
6 15.1-02-07, 20.1-03-04, 25-01-01, 25-01-03, 25-06-02.1, 25-06-02.2, 25-06-03, 25-06-10,
7 25-07-02, 32-12.2-01, 50-24.1-11, and 54-44.3-20.

8 **SECTION 6. MEASURES ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RELATING**
9 **TO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.** The legislative council may insert appropriate references in
10 any measure enacted by the legislative assembly which refers to the terms "North Dakota
11 school for the blind" or "school for the blind" consistent with usages contained in this Act.
12 References inserted may be adjusted to suit context and grammar of the sections and must be
13 inserted so as to harmonize the legislative measure with regard to the name change provided
14 by this Act.