

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1400

Introduced by

Representatives R. Kelsch, Mueller, Wall

Senators Flakoll, Holmberg, Taylor

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact two new sections to chapter 15-20.1, two new sections to
2 chapter 15.1-06, a new section to chapter 15.1-07, chapter 15.1-18.2, six new sections to
3 chapter 15.1-21, sections 15.1-21-02.2, 15.1-21-02.3, 15.1-21-02.4, and 15.1-21-02.5, two new
4 sections to chapter 15.1-27, three new sections to chapter 15.1-37, and sections 15.1-37-02,
5 15.1-37-03, 15.1-37-04, 15.1-37-05, and 15.1-37-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating
6 to school personnel, program and course requirements, assessments, career development
7 facilitation, state aid payments, and early childhood education; to amend and reenact sections
8 15.1-06-04, 15.1-09.1-10, 15.1-21-02, 15.1-21-02.1, 15.1-27-03.1, 15.1-27-04, 15.1-27-07.2,
9 15.1-27-11, 15.1-27-19, 15.1-27-35, 15.1-27-41, 15.1-32-18, and 15.1-37-01 of the North
10 Dakota Century Code and section 55 of chapter 163 of the 2007 Session Laws, relating to
11 school calendars, course requirements, state aid payments, special education, and early
12 childhood education; to provide for teacher compensation increases; to provide for the
13 distribution of transportation grants, reorganization planning grants, regional education
14 association grants, baseline recalculation grants, deferred maintenance grants, and
15 contingency payments; to provide for a contingent transfer; to provide for reports to the
16 legislative council; to repeal sections 15.1-21-02.2, 15.1-27-20.1, and 15.1-38-01.2 of the North
17 Dakota Century Code, relating to high school graduation requirements, the minimum mill levy
18 offset, and new immigrant English language learners; to provide an appropriation; to provide an
19 effective date; and to declare an emergency.

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

21 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-20.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22 created and enacted as follows:

23 **Career development facilitation - Certificate - Qualifications.**

- 1 1. The department shall develop a program leading to a certificate in career
2 development facilitation. The department shall award the certificate to any
3 individual who:
4 a. Holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher
5 education;
6 b. Has at least a five-year employment history; and
7 c. Successfully completes the department's programmatic requirements.
8 2. An individual holding a certificate awarded under this section is a career advisor.

9 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15-20.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
10 created and enacted as follows:

11 **Career development facilitation - Provisional approval.**

- 12 1. The department may provisionally approve an individual to serve as a career
13 advisor if the individual:
14 a. Holds a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher
15 education;
16 b. Has at least a five-year employment history; and
17 c. Provides the department with a plan for completing the department's
18 programmatic requirements within a two-year period.
19 2. Provisional approval under subsection 1 is valid for a period of two years and may
20 not be extended by the department.

21 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22 amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **15.1-06-04. School calendar - Length.**

- 24 1. a. During each the 2009-10 school year, a school district shall provide for a
25 school calendar of at least one hundred eighty days, apportioned as follows:
26 a- (1) One hundred seventy-three full days of instruction;
27 b- (2) Three holidays listed in subdivisions b through j of subsection 1 of
28 section 15.1-06-02 and selected by the school board in consultation
29 with district teachers;

- 1 e. (3) Up to two full days during which parent-teacher conferences are held or
2 which are deemed by the school board to be compensatory time for
3 parent-teacher conferences held outside regular school hours; and
- 4 d. (4) Two days for professional development activities.
- 5 b. Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, a school district shall provide for a
6 school calendar of at least one hundred eighty-one days, apportioned as
7 follows:
- 8 (1) One hundred seventy-four full days of instruction;
9 (2) Three holidays listed in subdivisions b through j of subsection 1 of
10 section 15.1-06-02 and selected by the school board in consultation
11 with district teachers;
- 12 (3) Up to two full days during which parent-teacher conferences are held or
13 which are deemed by the school board to be compensatory time for
14 parent-teacher conferences held outside regular school hours; and
- 15 (4) Two days for professional development activities.
- 16 2. a. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development
17 activities under subsection 1, a school district may require that its teachers
18 attend the North Dakota education association instructional conference and
19 may pay teachers for attending the conference, provided attendance is
20 verified.
- 21 b. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development
22 activities under subsection 1, a school district may consider attendance at the
23 North Dakota education association instructional conference to be optional,
24 elect not to pay teachers for attending the instructional conference, and
25 instead direct any resulting savings toward providing alternate professional
26 development opportunities.
- 27 c. For purposes of this section, a "day for professional development activities"
28 means:
- 29 (1) Six hours of professional development activities, exclusive of meals
30 and other breaks, conducted within a single day; or

- 1 (2) Two four-hour periods of professional development activities, exclusive
2 of meals and other breaks, conducted over two days.
- 3 3. If a school district offers a four-hour period of professional development activities,
4 as permitted in subdivision c of subsection 2, the school district may schedule
5 instruction during other available hours on that same day and be credited with
6 providing one-half day of instruction to students. The provisions of this subsection
7 do not apply unless the one-half day of instruction equals at least one-half of the
8 time required for a full day of instruction, as defined in this section.
- 9 4. A school district may not require the attendance of teachers in school or at any
10 school-sponsored, school-directed, school-sanctioned, or school-related activities
11 and may not schedule classroom instruction time nor alternate professional
12 development activities on any day that conflicts with the North Dakota education
13 association instructional conference.
- 14 5. a. ~~During the 2007-08 school year, a full day of instruction consists of:~~
15 (1) ~~At least five and one-half hours for elementary students, during which~~
16 ~~time the students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of~~
17 ~~receiving curricular instruction; and~~
18 (2) ~~At least six hours for high school students, during which time the~~
19 ~~students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving~~
20 ~~curricular instruction.~~
- 21 b. ~~Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, a~~ A full day of instruction consists of:
22 (1) At least five and one-half hours for kindergarten and elementary
23 students, during which time the students are required to be in
24 attendance for the purpose of receiving curricular instruction; and
25 (2) At least six hours for high school students, during which time the
26 students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving
27 curricular instruction.
- 28 b. Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, up to four of the days of full
29 instruction required by subsection 1 may be configured as follows:
30 (1) At least four hours for kindergarten and elementary students, during
31 which time the students are required to be in attendance for the

1 purpose of receiving curricular instruction and at least one and one-half
2 hours during which students are not required to be in attendance but
3 teachers are required to participate with other teachers in collaborative
4 or cooperative activities pertaining to curriculum, classroom practices,
5 and the interpretation and use of formative testing data; and

6 (2) At least four and one-half hours for high school students, during which
7 time the students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of
8 receiving curricular instruction and at least one and one-half hours
9 during which students are not required to be in attendance but teachers
10 are required to participate with other teachers in collaborative or
11 cooperative activities pertaining to curriculum, classroom practices, and
12 the interpretation and use of formative testing data.

13 6. If a school's calendar provides for an extension of each schoolday beyond the
14 statutorily required minimum number of hours, and if the extensions when
15 aggregated over an entire school year amount to more than eighty-four hours of
16 additional classroom instruction during the school year, the school is exempt from
17 having to make up six hours of instruction time lost as a result of weather-related
18 closure. In order to make up lost classroom instruction time beyond the six hours,
19 the school must extend its normal school calendar day by at least thirty minutes.

20 7. A school that does not qualify under ~~the provisions of~~ subsection 6 must extend its
21 normal schoolday by at least thirty minutes to make up classroom instruction time
22 lost as a result of weather-related closure.

23 8. If because of weather a school must dismiss before completing a full day of
24 instruction, the school is responsible for making up only those hours and portions
25 of an hour between the time of early dismissal and the conclusion of a full day of
26 classroom instruction.

27 **SECTION 4.** A new section to chapter 15.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is
28 created and enacted as follows:

29 **Counselor positions - Requirement.**

30 1. Each school district must have available one full-time equivalent counselor for
31 every three hundred students in grades seven through twelve.

1 2. Up to one-third of the full-time equivalency requirement established in subsection 1
2 may be met by career advisors.

3 3. For purposes of this section, a "career advisor" means an individual who holds a
4 certificate in career development facilitation issued by the department of career
5 and technical education under section 1 of this Act or an individual who is
6 provisionally approved by the department of career and technical education under
7 section 2 of this Act to serve as a career advisor.

8 **SECTION 5.** A new section to chapter 15.1-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 created and enacted as follows:

10 **Career advisor - Duties.** A career advisor shall meet with students in grades seven
11 through twelve, discuss the student's academic assessments and career interest surveys, and
12 pursue with the student career development and work-planning activities. A career advisor
13 shall use computer-assisted career guidance systems and work at the direction and under the
14 supervision of the school district counseling staff.

15 **SECTION 6.** A new section to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 created and enacted as follows:

17 **Student performance strategist - Verification - Qualifications.** Beginning with the
18 2010-11 school year, each school district must have available one full-time equivalent student
19 performance strategist for every four hundred students in average daily membership in
20 kindergarten through grade three. Each school district shall submit documentation to the
21 superintendent of public instruction, at the time and in the manner directed by the
22 superintendent, verifying the amount of time that each student performance strategist
23 expended in tutoring students on a one-to-one basis or in groups ranging from two to five, or in
24 providing instructional coaching to teachers. For purposes of this section, a "student
25 performance strategist" must meet the qualifications of an elementary school teacher as set
26 forth in section 15.1-18-07 and serve as a tutor or an instructional coach.

27 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-09.1-10 of the North Dakota Century Code
28 is amended and reenacted as follows:

29 **15.1-09.1-10. State aid - Payable to a regional education association - Obligation**
30 **of district.**

- 1 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall forward the portion of a school
2 district's state aid ~~that~~ which is payable by the superintendent under subdivision o
3 of subsection 1 of section 15.1-27-03.1 as a result of the district's participation in a
4 regional education association directly to the association in which the district
5 participates. The superintendent shall forward the amount payable under this
6 subsection at the same time and in the same manner as provided for other state
7 aid payments under section 15.1-27-01.
- 8 2. If the superintendent of public instruction determines that a school district failed to
9 meet any contractual or statutory obligation imposed upon it as a result of the
10 district's participation in a regional education association, the superintendent shall
11 subtract the amount for which the district was not eligible from any future
12 distribution of state aid to the district under section 15.1-27-01.

13 **SECTION 8.** Chapter 15.1-18.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
14 enacted as follows:

15 **15.1-18.2-01. Professional development plan - Adoption - Review by school**
16 **district.**

- 17 1. Each school district shall adopt a professional development plan. The plan must
18 include a description of the professional development activities that the district
19 offers or makes available, the district's requirements for participation by teachers,
20 and the manner in which participation is documented.
- 21 2. Each school district shall review and if necessary modify its plan at least once
22 every five years.
- 23 3. Each school district shall file a copy of its most recent professional development
24 plan with the superintendent of public instruction.

25 **15.1-18.2-02. Professional development plan - Review by superintendent of**
26 **public instruction.** The superintendent of public instruction shall review each school district's
27 professional development plan to ensure that the plan meets the requirements of section
28 15.1-18.2-01, is designed to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the district, and is
29 implemented in an efficient and effective manner.

30 **15.1-18.2-03. Professional development advisory committee - Duties - Staff**
31 **support.**

- 1 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint a professional development
2 advisory committee to:
 - 3 a. Examine the delivery of professional development in this state;
 - 4 b. Review professional development needs from the perspective of teachers,
5 school administrators, school board members, and parents;
 - 6 c. Review the professional development plans filed by school districts and
7 propose changes to improve the opportunities for professional development;
8 and
 - 9 d. Advise the superintendent regarding regulatory and statutory measures that
10 could be pursued to improve the quality and availability of professional
11 development opportunities.
- 12 2. The superintendent shall provide staff support to the professional development
13 advisory committee.

14 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
15 amended and reenacted as follows:

16 **15.1-21-02. High schools - Required units.**

- 17 1. In order to be approved by the superintendent of public instruction, each public and
18 nonpublic high school shall make available to each student:
 - 19 a. Four units of English language arts;
 - 20 b. Four units of mathematics;
 - 21 c. Four units of science;
 - 22 d. Four units of social studies, including one of world history and one of United
23 States history;
 - 24 e. One-half unit of health;
 - 25 f. One-half unit of physical education during each school year, provided that
26 once every four years the unit must be a concept-based fitness class that
27 includes instruction in the assessment, improvement, and maintenance of
28 personal fitness;
 - 29 g. Two units of fine arts, at least one of which must be music;
 - 30 h. Two units of the same foreign or native American language; and
 - 31 i. Two units of career and technical education.

- 1 2. In addition to the requirements of subsection 1, each public and nonpublic high
2 school shall make available to each student, at least once every two years,
3 one-half unit of North Dakota studies, with an emphasis on the geography, history,
4 and agriculture of this state.
- 5 3. Each unit which must be made available under this section must meet or exceed
6 the state content standards.
- 7 4. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires, "make
8 available" means that:
 - 9 a. Each public high school and nonpublic high school shall allow students to
10 select units over the course of a high school career from a list that includes at
11 least those required by this section;
 - 12 b. If a student selects a unit from the list required by this section, the public high
13 school or the nonpublic high school shall provide the unit to the student; and
 - 14 c. The unit may be provided to the student through any delivery method not
15 contrary to state law and may include classroom or individual instruction and
16 distance learning options, including interactive video, computer instruction,
17 correspondence courses, and postsecondary enrollment under chapter
18 15.1-25.
- 19 5. The board of a school district may not impose any fees or charges upon a student
20 for the provision of or participation in units as provided in this section, other than
21 the fees permitted by section 15.1-09-36.
- 22 6. If in order to meet the minimum requirements of this section a school district
23 includes academic courses offered by a postsecondary institution under chapter
24 15.1-25, the school district shall:
 - 25 a. Pay all costs of the student's attendance, except those fees that are
26 permissible under section 15.1-09-36; and
 - 27 b. Transport the student to and from the location at which the course is offered
28 or provide mileage reimbursement to the student if transportation is provided
29 by the student or the student's family.
- 30 7. The requirements of this section do not apply to alternative high schools or
31 alternative high school education programs.

1 8. The requirements of subdivisions g and h of subsection 1 do not apply to the North
2 Dakota youth correctional center.

3 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.1 of the North Dakota Century Code
4 is amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **15.1-21-02.1. High school graduation - Diploma requirements.** ~~Before~~ Except as
6 provided in section 15.1-21-02.5, before a school district, a nonpublic high school, or the center
7 for distance education issues a high school diploma to a student, the student must have
8 successfully completed ~~at least twenty-one~~ the following twenty-two units of high school
9 coursework ~~from the minimum required curriculum offerings established by section 15.1-21-02.~~
10 ~~Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, the number of units required by this section increases~~
11 ~~to twenty two and beginning with the 2011-12 school year, the number of units required by this~~
12 ~~section increases to twenty four:~~

- 13 1. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
14 composition, and speech;
- 15 2. Three units of mathematics;
- 16 3. Three units of science, including:
 - 17 a. One unit of physical science;
 - 18 b. One unit of biology; and
 - 19 c. (1) One unit of any other science; or
20 (2) Two one-half units of any other science;
- 21 4. Three units of social studies, including:
 - 22 a. One unit of United States history;
 - 23 b. (1) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
24 economics; or
25 (2) One unit of problems of democracy; and
 - 26 c. One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include
27 civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota
28 studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
- 29 5. a. One unit of physical education; or
30 b. One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
- 31 6. Three units of:

- 1 a. Foreign languages;
- 2 b. Native American languages;
- 3 c. Fine arts; or
- 4 d. Career and technical education courses; and
- 5 7. Any five additional units.

6 **SECTION 11.** Section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
7 enacted as follows:

8 **15.1-21-02.2. Merit scholarship - Technical honors.** Any resident student who
9 graduates from a high school during or after the 2010-11 school year is eligible to receive a
10 merit scholarship with technical honors provided the student completes all requirements set
11 forth in subsections 1 through 5 and subsection 7 of section 15.1-21-02.1 for a high school
12 diploma and:

- 13 1. a. Completes one unit of algebra II in fulfillment of the mathematics requirement
14 set forth in subsection 2 of section 15.1-21-02.1;
- 15 b. Completes two units of a coordinated plan of study recommended by the
16 department of career and technical education and approved by the
17 superintendent of public instruction; and
- 18 c. Completes three additional units, two of which must be in the area of career
19 and technical education;
- 20 2. Obtains a grade of at least "C" in each unit or one-half unit required for the
21 diploma;
- 22 3. Obtains a cumulative grade point of at least "B"; and
- 23 4. Receives:
 - 24 a. A composite score of at least twenty-four on an ACT;
 - 25 b. A score of at least one thousand one hundred on the critical reading and
26 mathematics portions of the SAT; or
 - 27 c. A score of at least five on each of three WorkKeys assessments
28 recommended by the department of career and technical education and
29 approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

30 **SECTION 12.** Section 15.1-21-02.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
31 enacted as follows:

1 **15.1-21-02.3. Merit scholarship - Academic honors.** Any resident student who
2 graduates from a high school during or after the 2010-11 school year is eligible to receive a
3 merit scholarship with academic honors provided the student completes all requirements set
4 forth in subsections 1 through 5 and subsection 7 of section 15.1-21-02.1 for a high school
5 diploma and:

- 6 1. a. Completes one unit of algebra II in fulfillment of the mathematics requirement
7 set forth in subsection 2 of section 15.1-21-02.1;
- 8 b. Completes one additional unit of mathematics for which algebra II is a
9 prerequisite; and
- 10 c. Completes:
 - 11 (1) Two units of the same foreign or native American language;
 - 12 (2) One unit of fine arts or career and technical education; and
 - 13 (3) One unit of a foreign or native American language, fine arts, or career
14 and technical education;
- 15 2. Obtains a grade of at least "C" in each unit or one-half unit required for the
16 diploma;
- 17 3. Obtains a cumulative grade point of at least "B";
- 18 4. Receives a composite score of at least twenty-four on an ACT or a score of at
19 least one thousand one hundred on the critical reading and mathematics portions
20 of the SAT; and
- 21 5. Completes one unit of an advanced placement course and examination or a
22 dual-credit course.

23 **SECTION 13.** Section 15.1-21-02.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
24 enacted as follows:

25 **15.1-21-02.4. Merit scholarship - Amount - Applicability.**

- 26 1. The state board of higher education shall provide to any eligible student a merit
27 scholarship in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars for each semester during
28 which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher
29 education in this state and maintains a grade point average of 2.75.
- 30 2. A student is not entitled to receive more than six thousand dollars under this
31 section.

- 1 3. The state board of higher education shall forward the scholarship directly to the
2 institution in which the student is enrolled.
- 3 4. This section does not require a student to be enrolled in consecutive semesters.
4 However, a scholarship under this section is valid only for six academic years after
5 the student's graduation from high school and may not be applied to graduate
6 programs.
- 7 5. A scholarship under this section is available to any eligible student who graduates
8 from a high school in this state or from a high school in a bordering state under
9 chapter 15.1-29.

10 **SECTION 14.** Section 15.1-21-02.5 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
11 enacted as follows:

12 **15.1-21-02.5. Optional high school curriculum - Requirements.** If after completing
13 at least two years of high school a student has failed to pass at least one-half unit from three
14 subsections in section 15.1-21-02.1 or has a grade point average at or below the twenty-fifth
15 percentile of other students in the district who are enrolled in the same grade, the student may
16 request that the student's career advisor, guidance counselor, or principal meet with the student
17 and the student's parent to determine if the student should be permitted to pursue an optional
18 high school curriculum, in place of the requirements set forth in section 15.1-21-02.1. If a
19 student's parent consents in writing to the student pursuing the optional high school curriculum,
20 the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completing the following
21 requirements:

- 22 1. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
23 composition, and speech;
- 24 2. Two units of mathematics;
- 25 3. Two units of science;
- 26 4. Three units of social studies, which may include up to one-half unit of North Dakota
27 studies and one-half unit of multicultural studies;
- 28 5. a. One unit of physical education; or
29 b. One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
- 30 6. Two units of:
- 31 a. Foreign languages;

- 1 b. Native American languages;
- 2 c. Fine arts; or
- 3 d. Career and technical education courses; and
- 4 7. Any seven additional units.

5 **SECTION 15.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Specific curricular directives - Report to the legislative council.**

- 8 1. The superintendent shall ensure that:
 - 9 a. The content standards for United States government and problems of
10 democracy include a required reading of the United States Constitution and
11 the Declaration of Independence;
 - 12 b. The content standards for high school health education courses address
13 social interactions and problem-solving skills; work and study habits; bullying;
14 gangs; tobacco, drug, and alcohol use; and anger, anxiety, depression, and
15 suicide; and
 - 16 c. Each public and nonpublic high school makes available to each student a
17 personal finance course or a consumer finance course.
- 18 2. The superintendent shall provide an annual report to the legislative council
19 concerning the requirements of this section and the implementation of the specific
20 curricular directives.

21 **SECTION 16.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22 created and enacted as follows:

23 **Summer school courses and programs - Eligibility for payment.** The summer
24 school courses and programs for which a school district may receive payment as provided in
25 section 15.1-27-10 are:

- 26 1. a. Remedial mathematics provided to students enrolled in any grade from
27 kindergarten through eight;
- 28 b. Remedial reading provided to students enrolled in any grade from
29 kindergarten through eight;
- 30 c. Mathematics provided to students enrolled in any grade from five through
31 nine;

- 1 d. Reading provided to students enrolled in any grade from five through nine;
2 e. Science provided to students enrolled in any grade from five through nine;
3 and
4 f. Social studies provided to students enrolled in any grade from five through
5 nine; and
- 6 2. Any other high school summer courses that satisfy requirements for graduation,
7 comprise at least as many clock-hours as courses offered during the regular
8 school term, and comply with rules adopted by the superintendent of public
9 instruction.

10 **SECTION 17.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 created and enacted as follows:

12 **Interim assessment.** Each school district shall administer annually to students in
13 grades two through ten the measures of academic progress test or any other interim
14 assessment approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

15 **SECTION 18.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 created and enacted as follows:

17 **Career interest inventory.** A school district shall administer to students, at least once
18 during their enrollment in grades seven through ten, a career interest inventory recommended
19 by the department of career and technical education and approved by the superintendent of
20 public instruction.

21 **SECTION 19.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
22 created and enacted as follows:

23 **Summative assessment - Selection - Cost - Exemptions.**

24 1. Except as otherwise provided, each student in grade eleven shall take the ACT,
25 the SAT, or three WorkKeys assessments recommended by the department of
26 career and technical education and approved by the superintendent of public
27 instruction. The student shall determine which summative assessment to take.

28 The student's school district is responsible for the cost of one summative
29 assessment and its administration per student.

30 2. The student's career advisor or guidance counselor shall meet with the student to
31 review the student's assessment results.

- 1 3. A school district superintendent may exempt a student from the requirements of
2 this section if taking the test is not required by the student's individualized
3 education program plan or if the superintendent determines that other special
4 circumstances exist.

5 **SECTION 20.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 created and enacted as follows:

7 **Summative assessment - General educational development diploma - Selection -**
8 **Cost.**

- 9 1. Except as otherwise provided, each student pursuing a general educational
10 development diploma may take the ACT, the SAT, or three WorkKeys
11 assessments recommended by the department of career and technical education
12 and approved by the superintendent of public instruction. The student shall
13 determine which summative assessment to take. The student's school district is
14 responsible for the cost of one summative assessment and its administration per
15 student.
16 2. The student's career adviser or guidance counselor shall meet with the student to
17 review the student's assessment results.

18 **SECTION 21. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code
19 is amended and reenacted as follows:

20 **15.1-27-03.1. Weighted average daily membership - Determination.**

- 21 1. For each school district, the superintendent of public instruction shall multiply by:
22 a. 1.00 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a migrant summer
23 program;
24 b. 1.00 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an extended
25 educational program in accordance with section 15.1-32-17;
26 c. 0.60 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a summer
27 education program;
28 d. 0.50 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a home-based
29 education program and monitored by the school district under chapter
30 15.1-23;

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- 1 e. 0.25 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an alternative high
2 school;
- 3 f. 0.25 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an isolated
4 elementary school;
- 5 g. 0.25 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an isolated high
6 school;
- 7 h. 0.20 the number of full-time equivalent students attending school in a
8 bordering state in accordance with section 15.1-29-01;
- 9 i. 0.20 the number of full-time equivalent students who on a test of English
10 language proficiency approved by the superintendent of public instruction are
11 determined to be least proficient and are enrolled in a program of instruction
12 for English language learners;
- 13 j. 0.17 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in an early childhood
14 special education program;
- 15 ~~j. 0.14 the number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in a new immigrant~~
16 ~~English language learner program;~~
- 17 k. ~~0.067~~ 0.07 the number of students enrolled in average daily membership, in
18 order to support the provision of special education services; ~~and~~
- 19 l. 0.05 the number of students representing that percentage of the total number
20 of students in average daily membership, which is equivalent to the
21 three-year average percentage of students in grades three through eight who
22 are eligible for free or reduced lunches under the Richard B. Russell National
23 School Lunch Act [42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.];
- 24 m. 0.05 the number of full-time equivalent students who on a test of English
25 language proficiency approved by the superintendent of public instruction are
26 determined to be not proficient and are enrolled in a program of instruction for
27 English language learners;
- 28 ~~h. n.~~ 0.02 the number of full-time equivalent students, other than those provided for
29 in subdivision j, who on a test of English language proficiency approved by
30 the superintendent of public instruction are determined to be somewhat

- 1 proficient and are enrolled in ~~an~~ a program of instruction for English language
2 learner program learners; and
3 o. 0.004 the number of students enrolled in average daily membership in a
4 school district that is a participating member of a regional education
5 association meeting the requirements of chapter 15.1-09.1.
6 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall determine each school district's
7 weighted average daily membership by adding the products derived under
8 subsection 1 to the district's average daily membership.

9 **SECTION 22. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **15.1-27-04. Per student payment rate.**

- 12 1. a. The per student payment rate to which each school district is entitled for the
13 first year of the biennium is three thousand ~~two~~ four hundred ~~fifty~~ twenty
14 dollars.
15 b. The per student payment rate to which each school district is entitled for the
16 second year of the biennium is three thousand ~~three~~ seven hundred
17 ~~twenty-five~~ seventy-nine dollars.
18 2. In order to determine the state aid payment to which each district is entitled, the
19 superintendent of public instruction shall multiply each district's weighted student
20 units by the per student payment rate set forth in subsection 1.

21 **SECTION 23. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-07.2 of the North Dakota Century Code
22 is amended and reenacted as follows:

23 **15.1-27-07.2. Baseline funding - Determination - Minimum and maximum**
24 **allowable increases.**

- 25 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall determine each school district's
26 baseline funding per weighted student unit by:
27 a. Adding together all state aid received by the district during the 2006-07 school
28 year;
29 b. Subtracting the amount received by the district during the 2006-07 school
30 year for transportation aid, special education excess cost reimbursements,
31 special education contracts, prior year funding adjustments, and per student

- 1 payments for participation in educational associations governed by joint
2 powers agreements; and
- 3 c. Dividing the amount determined under subdivision b by the district's 2007-08
4 weighted student units.
- 5 2. a. The superintendent of public instruction shall ensure that the total amount of
6 state aid payable to a district per weighted student unit, for the ~~2007-08~~
7 2009-10 school year, is at least equal to one hundred ~~three and one-half~~ eight
8 percent of the baseline funding per weighted student unit, as established in
9 subsection 1.
- 10 b. The superintendent of public instruction shall ensure that the total amount of
11 state aid payable to a district per weighted student unit, for each school year
12 after the ~~2007-08~~ 2009-10 school year, is at least equal to one hundred ~~six~~
13 twelve and one-half percent of the baseline funding per weighted student unit,
14 as established in subsection 1.
- 15 3. a. The superintendent of public instruction shall ensure that the total amount of
16 state aid payable to a district per weighted student unit, less any amount
17 received as equity payments under section 15.1-27-11 per weighted student
18 unit, does not exceed, for the ~~2007-08~~ 2009-10 school year, one hundred
19 ~~seven~~ twenty percent of the baseline funding per weighted student unit, as
20 established in subsection 1.
- 21 b. ~~Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, the maximum percentage of~~
22 ~~allowable growth in the baseline funding per weighted student unit provided in~~
23 ~~subdivision a must be annually increased by three percentage points, plus the~~
24 ~~district's share of any increased state aid for that year. Payments received by~~
25 ~~districts for the provision of full-day kindergarten do not constitute increases in~~
26 ~~state aid for purposes of this subdivision. The superintendent of public~~
27 instruction shall ensure that the total amount of state aid payable to a district
28 per weighted student unit, less any amount received as equity payments
29 under section 15.1-27-11 per weighted student unit, does not exceed, for
30 each school year after the 2009-10 school year, one hundred thirty-four

1 percent of the baseline funding per weighted student unit, as established in
2 subsection 1.

3 **SECTION 24. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **15.1-27-11. Equity payments.**

6 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall:

7 a. Divide the imputed taxable valuation of the state by the total average daily
8 membership of all school districts in the state in order to determine the state
9 average imputed taxable valuation per student.

10 b. Divide the imputed taxable valuation of each school district by the district's
11 total average daily membership in order to determine each district's average
12 imputed taxable valuation per student.

13 2. ~~a. If a school district's imputed taxable valuation per student is less than~~
14 ~~eighty-eight and one-half percent of the statewide imputed taxable valuation~~
15 ~~per student, the superintendent of public instruction shall calculate the~~
16 ~~valuation deficiency by:~~

17 ~~(1) Determining the difference between eighty-eight and one-half percent~~
18 ~~of the state average imputed taxable valuation per student and the~~
19 ~~district's average imputed taxable valuation per student; and~~

20 ~~(2) Multiplying that difference by the district's total average daily~~
21 ~~membership.~~

22 b. ~~Beginning July 1, 2008, if~~ If a school district's imputed taxable valuation per
23 student is less than ninety percent of the statewide imputed taxable valuation
24 per student, the superintendent of public instruction shall calculate the
25 valuation deficiency by:

26 (1) a. Determining the difference between ninety percent of the state average
27 imputed taxable valuation per student and the district's average
28 imputed taxable valuation per student; and

29 (2) b. Multiplying that difference by the district's total average daily
30 membership.

- 1 3. Except as provided in subsection 4, the equity payment to which a district is
2 entitled under this section equals the district's valuation deficiency multiplied by the
3 lesser of:
4 a. The district's general fund ~~mill~~ levy for the taxable year 2008; or
5 b. One hundred eighty-five mills.
- 6 4. a. The equity payment to which a district is entitled may not exceed the district's
7 taxable valuation multiplied by its general fund ~~mill~~ levy for the taxable year
8 2008.
9 b. If a district's general fund levy for the taxable year 2008 is less than one
10 hundred eighty-five mills, the superintendent of public instruction shall
11 subtract the district's general fund ~~mill~~ levy for the taxable year 2008 from one
12 hundred eighty-five mills, multiply the result by the district's taxable valuation,
13 and subtract that result from the equity payment to which the district is
14 otherwise entitled.
15 c. If a district's imputed taxable valuation per student is less than fifty percent of
16 the statewide imputed taxable valuation per student, the payment to which the
17 district is entitled under this section may not be less than twenty percent of
18 the statewide imputed taxable valuation per student times the school district's
19 average daily membership, multiplied by one hundred eighty-five mills.
- 20 5. In determining the amount to which a school district is entitled under this section,
21 the superintendent of public instruction may not include any payments received by
22 the district as a result of Public Law No. 81-874 [64 Stat. 1100; 20 U.S.C. 236
23 et seq.] and may not include in the district's average daily membership students
24 who are dependents of members of the armed forces and students who are
25 dependents of civilian employees of the department of defense.
- 26 6. For purposes of this section:
27 a. "General fund levy" includes a district's high school transportation levy and its
28 high school tuition levy.
29 b. "Imputed taxable valuation" means the valuation of all taxable real property in
30 the district plus an amount determined by dividing ~~sixty percent of the~~
31 ~~district's mineral and tuition revenue by the district's general fund mill levy.~~

1 ~~Beginning July 1, 2008, "imputed taxable valuation" means the valuation of all~~
2 ~~taxable real property in the district plus an amount determined by dividing~~
3 ~~seventy percent of the district's mineral and tuition revenue by the district's~~
4 ~~general fund mill levy.~~

5 c. "Mineral revenue" includes all revenue from county sources reported under
6 code 2000 of the North Dakota school district financial accounting and
7 reporting manual as developed by the superintendent of public instruction in
8 accordance with section 15.1-02-08.

9 d. "Tuition revenue" includes all revenue reported under code 1300 of the North
10 Dakota school district financial accounting and reporting manual as
11 developed by the superintendent of public instruction in accordance with
12 section 15.1-02-08. "Tuition revenue" does not include tuition income
13 received specifically for the operation of an educational program provided at a
14 residential treatment facility.

15 **SECTION 25.** A new section to chapter 15.1-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 created and enacted as follows:

17 **Reorganized district - Continuation of equity payment.** If a school district that
18 received an equity payment under section 15.1-27-11 becomes part of a reorganized district
19 after June 30, 2010, the newly reorganized district is entitled to receive, for a period of two
20 years, an amount equal to the greater of:

- 21 1. The equity payment received by each of the school districts during the school year
22 immediately preceding the reorganization; or
- 23 2. The equity payment to which the newly reorganized school district is entitled under
24 section 15.1-27-11.

25 **SECTION 26.** A new section to chapter 15.1-27 of the North Dakota Century Code is
26 created and enacted as follows:

27 **Dissolved district - Continuation of equity payment.** If a school district that received
28 an equity payment under section 15.1-27-11 dissolves after June 30, 2009, any school district
29 that receives a portion of the dissolved district's land is entitled to receive, for a period of two
30 years, an amount equal to the greatest of:

- 1 1. That percentage of the dissolved school district's equity payment from the school
- 2 year immediately preceding the dissolution which is the same as that percentage
- 3 of the dissolved district's land which was attached to the receiving district;
- 4 2. The same equity payment to which the receiving school district was entitled in the
- 5 school year immediately preceding the dissolution; or
- 6 3. The equity payment to which the receiving school district is entitled under section
- 7 15.1-27-11.

8 **SECTION 27. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **15.1-27-19. Summer school courses and programs - Payments to school**
11 **districts.**

- 12 1. Before a weight may be assigned under section 15.1-27-03.1 for a student enrolled
- 13 in a high school summer course, the superintendent of public instruction shall
- 14 verify that the course ~~satisfies requirements for graduation, comprises at least as~~
- 15 ~~many clock hours as courses offered during the regular school term, and complies~~
- 16 ~~with rules adopted by the superintendent of public instruction~~ meets the
- 17 requirements of section 16 of this Act.
- 18 2. Before a weight may be assigned under section 15.1-27-03.1 for a student enrolled
- 19 in an elementary summer program, the superintendent of public instruction shall
- 20 verify that the program meets the requirements of section 16 of this Act and
- 21 complies with rules adopted by the superintendent of public instruction.

22 **SECTION 28. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-35 of the North Dakota Century Code is
23 amended and reenacted as follows:

24 **15.1-27-35. Average daily membership - Calculation.**

- 25 1. a. Average During the 2009-10 school year, average daily membership is
- 26 calculated at the conclusion of the school year by adding the total number of
- 27 days that each student in a given grade, school, or school district is in
- 28 attendance during a school calendar and the total number of days that each
- 29 student in a given grade, school, or school district is absent during a school
- 30 calendar, and then dividing the sum by the greater of:
- 31 a. (1) The school district's calendar; or

- 1 b- (2) One hundred eighty.
- 2 b. Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, average daily membership is
- 3 calculated at the conclusion of the school year by adding the total number of
- 4 days that each student in a given grade, school, or school district is in
- 5 attendance during a school calendar and the total number of days that each
- 6 student in a given grade, school, or school district is absent during a school
- 7 calendar, and then dividing the sum by the greater of:
- 8 (1) The school district's calendar; or
- 9 (2) One hundred eighty-one.
- 10 2. For purposes of calculating average daily membership, all students are deemed to
- 11 be in attendance on:
- 12 a. The three holidays listed in subdivisions b through j of subsection 1 of section
- 13 15.1-06-02 and selected by the school board in consultation with district
- 14 teachers;
- 15 b. The two days set aside for professional development activities under section
- 16 15.1-06-04; and
- 17 c. The two full days, or portions thereof, during which parent-teacher
- 18 conferences are held or which are deemed by the board of the district to be
- 19 compensatory time for parent-teacher conferences held outside regular
- 20 school hours.
- 21 3. For purposes of calculating average daily membership:
- 22 a. A student enrolled full time in any grade from one through twelve may not
- 23 exceed an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be
- 24 prorated for a student who is enrolled less than full time.
- 25 b. ~~During the 2007-08 school year, a student enrolled full time in an approved~~
- 26 ~~regular education kindergarten program may not exceed an average daily~~
- 27 ~~membership of 0.50. Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, a~~ A student
- 28 enrolled full time in an approved regular education kindergarten program may
- 29 not exceed an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be
- 30 prorated for a student who is enrolled less than full time.

- 1 c. A student enrolled full time, as defined by the superintendent of public
2 instruction, in an approved early childhood special education program may
3 not exceed an average daily membership of 1.00. The membership may be
4 prorated for a student who is enrolled less than full time.

5 **SECTION 29. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-27-41 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-27-41. North Dakota commission on education improvement - Membership -**
8 **Duties - Report to legislative council - Reimbursement for expenses.**

- 9 1. The North Dakota commission on education improvement consists of:
- 10 a. (1) The governor or an individual designated by the governor, who shall
11 serve as the chairman;
- 12 (2) One individual, appointed by the governor, who is employed as the
13 superintendent of a high school district having more than one thousand
14 students in average daily membership;
- 15 (3) One individual, appointed by the governor, who is employed as the
16 superintendent of a high school district having more than two hundred
17 twenty but fewer than one thousand students in average daily
18 membership;
- 19 (4) One individual, appointed by the governor, who is employed as the
20 superintendent of a high school district having fewer than two hundred
21 twenty students in average daily membership;
- 22 (5) One individual, appointed by the governor, who is employed as a
23 school district business manager;
- 24 (6) The chairman of the senate education committee or the chairman's
25 designee;
- 26 (7) The chairman of the house education committee or the chairman's
27 designee;
- 28 (8) The senate minority leader or the leader's designee;
- 29 (9) One legislator appointed by the chairman of the legislative council; and
30 (10) The superintendent of public instruction or an assistant superintendent
31 designated by the superintendent of public instruction; and

- 1 b. The following nonvoting members:
- 2 (1) ~~One nonvoting member~~ individual representing the North Dakota
- 3 council of educational leaders, ~~one nonvoting member;~~
- 4 (2) One individual representing the North Dakota education association;
- 5 ~~and one nonvoting member;~~
- 6 (3) One individual representing the North Dakota school boards
- 7 association;
- 8 (4) One individual who is the owner or manager of a business located in
- 9 this state, appointed by the governor from a list of three names
- 10 forwarded by the North Dakota chamber of commerce; and
- 11 (5) The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.
- 12 2. The commission shall establish its own duties and rules of operation and
- 13 procedure, including rules relating to appointments, terms of office, vacancies,
- 14 quorums, and meetings, provided that the duties and the rules do not conflict with
- 15 any provisions of this section.
- 16 3. ~~The members of the commission are entitled to reimbursement for actual and~~
- 17 ~~necessary expenses incurred in the same manner as state officials.~~ Each member
- 18 of the commission, except the governor, the superintendent of public instruction,
- 19 and the commissioner of higher education, or their respective designees, is entitled
- 20 to receive compensation in the amount of one hundred thirty-five dollars per day
- 21 plus reimbursement for expenses as provided by law for state officers if the
- 22 member is attending meetings or performing duties directed by the commission.
- 23 The superintendent of public instruction shall use up to forty thousand dollars from
- 24 moneys appropriated in the grants - state school aid line item in ~~section 3 of~~
- 25 ~~Senate Bill No. 2013~~ the appropriation bill for the superintendent of public
- 26 instruction, as approved by the sixtieth legislative assembly, to provide the
- 27 compensation and reimbursements.
- 28 4. The commission shall ~~examine~~:
- 29 a. Examine the current system of delivering and financing public elementary and
- 30 secondary education and shall develop recommendations addressing
- 31 educational adequacy, the equitable distribution of state education funds, the

1 allocation of funding responsibility between federal, state, and local sources,
2 and any other matters that could result in the improvement of elementary and
3 secondary education in the state;

4 b. Examine the state's high school graduation requirements, curricular
5 standards, and assessments to ensure that students have the academic skills
6 necessary to move seamlessly and without remediation from high schools to
7 institutions of higher education or to meet the performance levels expected by
8 employers;

9 c. Examine the measures enacted by the most recent legislative assembly to
10 improve student performance, confirm their full implementation, and
11 recommend future measures for continued improvement; and

12 d. Examine the measures enacted by the most recent legislative assembly to
13 improve the quality of instruction, confirm their full implementation, and
14 recommend future measures for continued improvement.

15 5. The commission shall provide periodic reports to the governor and to the
16 legislative council.

17 **SECTION 30. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-32-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **15.1-32-18. Cost - Liability of school district for special education.**

20 1. Each year the superintendent of public instruction shall identify the approximately
21 one percent of special education students statewide who are not eligible for cost
22 reimbursement under section 15.1-29-14 and who require the greatest school
23 district expenditures in order to provide them with special education and related
24 services. This percentage represents the number of students that would qualify for
25 excess cost reimbursement beyond the multiplier that is established in
26 subsection 3.

27 2. The excess costs of providing special education and related services to these
28 students are the responsibility of the state and the superintendent of public
29 instruction shall reimburse the school districts for any excess costs incurred in the
30 provision of special education and related services to the identified students.

- 1 3. "Excess costs" are those that exceed four ~~and one-half~~ times the state average
2 cost of education per student and which are incurred by the special education
3 students identified in subsection 1.
- 4 4. All costs of providing special education and related services to those students
5 identified in subsection 1, other than excess costs reimbursed by the state, are the
6 responsibility of the student's school district of residence.
- 7 5. In addition to any other reimbursements provided under this section, if a school
8 district expends more than two percent of its annual budget for the provision of
9 special education and related services to one student, the district shall notify the
10 superintendent of public instruction. Upon verification, the superintendent shall
11 reimburse the district for the difference between:
- 12 a. Two percent of the district's annual budget; and
- 13 b. The lesser of:
- 14 (1) The amount actually expended by the district for the provision of
15 special education and related services to that student; or
- 16 (2) The amount representing four ~~and one-half~~ times the state average
17 cost of education per student.

18 **SECTION 31.** A new section to chapter 15.1-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
19 created and enacted as follows:

20 **North Dakota early childhood education council - Membership - Terms.**

- 21 1. The North Dakota early childhood education council consists of:
- 22 a. A chairman appointed by the governor;
- 23 b. The superintendent of public instruction, or the superintendent's designee;
- 24 c. The state health officer, or the officer's designee;
- 25 d. The director of the department of human services, or the director's designee;
- 26 e. The North Dakota head start - state collaboration administrator, or the
27 administrator's designee;
- 28 f. The commissioner of higher education, or the commissioner's designee;
- 29 g. The chairman of the senate education committee, or the chairman's designee;
- 30 h. The chairman of the house of representatives education committee, or the
31 chairman's designee; and

- 1 i. The following gubernatorial appointees:
- 2 (1) The superintendent of a school district having at least one thousand
- 3 students in average daily membership;
- 4 (2) The superintendent of a school district having fewer than one thousand
- 5 students in average daily membership;
- 6 (3) The superintendent of a school district headquartered on a reservation
- 7 or including reservation land within its boundaries;
- 8 (4) The principal of a school district;
- 9 (5) An individual employed as an elementary school teacher;
- 10 (6) An individual representing a non-religious-based provider of preschool
- 11 education;
- 12 (7) An individual representing a religious-based provider of preschool
- 13 education;
- 14 (8) An individual representing a center-based licensed child care provider;
- 15 (9) An individual representing a home-based licensed child care provider;
- 16 (10) An individual representing a reservation-based head start program; and
- 17 (11) An elected member of a school board;
- 18 (12) The parent of a child not yet enrolled in elementary school; and
- 19 (13) The parent of a child with special needs not yet enrolled in elementary
- 20 school.
- 21 2. a. The term of each member enumerated in subdivision g of subsection 1 is
- 22 three years and begins on July first. The terms must be staggered by lot so
- 23 that four of the terms expire each year.
- 24 b. If at any time during a member's term the member ceases to possess the
- 25 qualifications required by this section, the member's seat is deemed vacant
- 26 and the governor shall appoint another qualified individual to serve for the
- 27 remainder of the term.
- 28 c. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms. If an individual is
- 29 appointed to complete a vacancy, that service is not counted as a term, for
- 30 purposes of this section, unless the duration of that service exceeds one year.
- 31 3. The council shall meet at least twice each year, at the call of the chairman.

1 **SECTION 32.** A new section to chapter 15.1-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 created and enacted as follows:

3 **Council - Duties.** The council shall:

- 4 1. Review the delivery of early childhood education in this state;
- 5 2. Conduct a needs assessment;
- 6 3. Review early childhood education standards and propose revisions to the
7 standards as needed;
- 8 4. Review opportunities for public and private sector collaboration in the delivery of
9 early childhood education in this state;
- 10 5. Develop a comprehensive plan governing the delivery of early childhood education
11 in this state; and
- 12 6. Provide a biennial report regarding its activities to the governor and the legislative
13 council.

14 **SECTION 33.** A new section to chapter 15.1-37 of the North Dakota Century Code is
15 created and enacted as follows:

16 **Council members - Reimbursement for expenses.** Each member of the council is
17 entitled to receive reimbursement for expenses as provided by law for state officers if the
18 member is attending meetings or performing duties directed by the council.

19 **SECTION 34. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-37-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
20 amended and reenacted as follows:

21 **15.1-37-01. Early childhood education program - Approval.** Any person or school
22 district operating an early childhood education program may request approval of the program
23 from the superintendent of public instruction. The superintendent shall approve an early
24 childhood education program if the program:

- 25 1. Is taught by individuals who are licensed to teach in early childhood education by
26 the education standards and practices board;
- 27 2. Follows a developmentally appropriate curriculum; and
- 28 3. Is in compliance with all municipal and state health, fire, and safety requirements.

29 ~~Per student funding will not be provided to individuals or school districts offering a~~
30 ~~prekindergarten program.~~

1 **SECTION 35.** Section 15.1-37-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
2 enacted as follows:

3 **15.1-37-02. Early childhood education program - Authority to operate.**

4 1. The board of a school district may operate an approved early childhood education
5 program, provided the program is limited to students who are:

6 a. At least four years old by midnight, August thirty-first of the year of enrollment;

7 and

8 b. Not enrolled in a public school kindergarten program.

9 2. The enrollment of a student in an early childhood education program is voluntary.

10 **SECTION 36.** Section 15.1-37-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
11 enacted as follows:

12 **15.1-37-03. Early childhood education program - Facilities.** A school district may
13 operate an early childhood education program in a public school building if space is available or
14 in any other setting that meets all local and state health, fire, and safety laws.

15 **SECTION 37.** Section 15.1-37-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
16 enacted as follows:

17 **15.1-37-04. Early childhood education program - Financial support.** The board of
18 a school district may receive and expend any state or federal funds specifically appropriated for
19 the support of an early childhood education program and any gifts, grants, and donations for
20 that purpose. The board may not use any state funds appropriated for students in
21 kindergarten, in grades one through twelve, or in early childhood special education programs to
22 support an early childhood education program.

23 **SECTION 38.** Section 15.1-37-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
24 enacted as follows:

25 **15.1-37-05. Early childhood education program - Requirements.** To receive a
26 grant for an early childhood education program operated under this chapter, a district shall:

27 1. Establish an early childhood education advisory council, in accordance with
28 section 15.1-37-06;

29 2. Utilize an application process for the admission of students to the program;

30 3. Give admission priority to students who come from families with income levels that
31 meet the eligibility requirements for free or reduced lunch programs;

- 1 4. Limit the size of each early childhood education class to twenty students;
- 2 5. Ensure that the adult-to-student ratio in each class does not exceed one to ten;
- 3 6. Provide a half-day or full-day program with a duration at least equal to ninety full
4 days of instruction;
- 5 7. Admit only those students whose parents permit the collection and dissemination
6 of data regarding the cognitive, physical, and social development of the student;
7 and
- 8 8. Meet the criteria for program approval established in section 15.1-37-01.

9 **SECTION 39.** Section 15.1-37-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and
10 enacted as follows:

11 **15.1-37-06. School district early childhood education advisory council -**
12 **Establishment.**

- 13 1. The superintendent of each school district operating an early childhood education
14 program shall establish an early childhood education advisory council consisting of
15 at least:
 - 16 a. The director of a head start program serving the school district, or the
17 director's designee;
 - 18 b. An individual who is a licensed child care or preschool provider located within
19 the school district;
 - 20 c. An individual who owns or operates a business located within the school
21 district;
 - 22 d. The mayor of the city in which the school district is headquartered, or the
23 mayor's designee; and
 - 24 e. The parent of a child enrolled in the district's early childhood education
25 program.
- 26 2. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall serve as the chairman.
- 27 3. The advisory council shall meet at the call of the chairman and shall provide advice
28 and recommendations to the school district regarding matters such as coordination
29 and cooperation with private sector early childhood education providers and head
30 start programs, the admission of eligible children, opportunities to jointly address
31 staff training needs, issues encountered by working families, communication and

1 outreach services, facility usage, transportation, and any other matters that impact
2 the provision of early childhood education services within the district.

3 **SECTION 40. APPROPRIATION - EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM**

4 **GRANTS.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury,
5 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,500,000, or so much of the sum as may be
6 necessary, to the superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of providing grants to four
7 school districts offering early childhood education programs, for the biennium beginning July 1,
8 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. The superintendent of public instruction shall distribute the
9 grants during the second year of the biennium, according to the number of students each
10 school district has in approved early childhood education programs. The grant payment per
11 student may not exceed fifty percent of the per student payment rate established in section
12 15.1-27-04. The superintendent of public instruction may use up to \$50,000 of the amount
13 appropriated by this section to cover administrative costs and monitoring expenses incurred as
14 a result of the program.

15 **SECTION 41. APPROPRIATION - MENTORSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.** There is

16 appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise
17 appropriated, the sum of \$2,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the
18 education standards and practices board for the purpose of supporting a mentorship grant
19 program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.

20 1. The board shall:

- 21 a. Employ an individual to serve as a mentoring coordinator and to oversee and
22 evaluate the program;
- 23 b. Appoint an advisory board to assist with program development and oversight;
24 and
- 25 c. Select and train experienced teachers who will serve as mentors for first-year
26 teachers and assist the first-year teachers with instructional skills
27 development.

28 2. The board may use any moneys provided under this section for staff
29 compensation, training, evaluation, stipends for mentors and first-year teachers
30 participating in the program, and any other administrative expenses resulting from
31 the program.

1 **SECTION 42. APPROPRIATION - INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING PROGRAM.** There
2 is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise
3 appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the
4 superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of providing three grants for instructional
5 coaching programs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. Each
6 grant recipient must provide matching funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The superintendent of
7 public instruction may establish additional criteria governing the qualifications of instructional
8 coaches, participation by teachers, and methods by which the instructional coaching programs
9 will be evaluated. A grant under this section is payable to a school district or a regional
10 education association during the second year of the biennium.

11 **SECTION 43. APPROPRIATION - TRANSPORTATION PAYMENTS.** There is
12 appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise
13 appropriated, the sum of \$2,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the
14 superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of providing transportation payments to
15 school districts, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011.

16 **SECTION 44. USE OF NEW MONEY - TEACHER COMPENSATION INCREASES -**
17 **REPORTS TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

- 18 1. During the 2009-11 biennium, the board of each school district shall use an
19 amount equal to at least seventy percent of all new money received by the district
20 for per student payments to increase the compensation paid to teachers and to
21 provide compensation to teachers who begin employment with the district on or
22 after July 1, 2009.
- 23 2. For purposes of this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall calculate
24 the amount of new money received by a district during the 2009-11 biennium by:
- 25 a. Determining the total amount of state dollars received by each district during
26 the 2007-09 biennium as per student payments, provided that neither equity
27 payments under section 15.1-27-11, transportation payments, mill levy
28 reduction payments, regional education association participation payments,
29 nor contingency distributions are to be included in the total;
- 30 b. Determining the total amount of state dollars received by each district during
31 the 2009-11 biennium as per student payments, provided that neither equity

- 1 payments under section 15.1-27-11, transportation payments, nor
2 contingency distributions are to be included in the total; and
3 c. Subtracting the amount arrived at under subdivision a from the amount
4 arrived at under subdivision b.
5 3. School districts providing educational services under a cooperative agreement
6 approved by the superintendent of public instruction must be treated as a single
7 district for purposes of this section.
8 4. a. This section does not apply to a school district if the board of the school
9 district, after a public hearing at which public testimony and documentary
10 evidence are accepted, determines in its discretion and by an affirmative vote
11 of two-thirds of the members of the board that complying with subsection 1
12 would place the school district in the position of having insufficient fiscal
13 resources to meet the school district's other obligations.
14 b. Within ten days of the vote required by subdivision a, the school board shall
15 notify the superintendent of public instruction of its action and shall file a
16 report detailing the grounds for its determination and action.
17 c. The superintendent of public instruction shall report all notices received under
18 this subsection to the legislative council.

19 **SECTION 45. TRANSPORTATION GRANTS - DISTRIBUTION.**

- 20 1. During each year of the 2009-11 biennium, the superintendent of public instruction
21 shall calculate the payment to which each school district is entitled based on the
22 state transportation formula as it existed on June 30, 2001, except that the
23 superintendent shall provide reimbursement at the rate of:
24 a. Eighty-one cents per mile for schoolbuses having a capacity of ten or more
25 passengers;
26 b. Forty-two cents per mile for vehicles having a capacity of nine or fewer
27 passengers; and
28 c. Twenty-two cents per student for each one-way trip, provided that a "student"
29 includes a participant in an early childhood education program that is eligible
30 for funding under section 15.1-27-03.1.

- 1 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall use the latest available student
2 enrollment count in each school district in applying the provisions of the
3 transportation formula as it existed on June 30, 2001.
- 4 3. If any moneys provided for transportation payments in the grants - transportation
5 line item in the appropriation bill for the superintendent of public instruction, as
6 approved by the sixty-first legislative assembly, remain after application of the
7 formula provided for in this section, the superintendent of public instruction shall
8 prorate the remaining amounts according to the percentage of the total
9 transportation formula amount to which each school district is entitled.
- 10 4. This section does not authorize the reimbursement of any costs incurred in
11 providing transportation for student attendance at extracurricular activities or
12 events.

13 **SECTION 46. SCHOOL DISTRICT REORGANIZATION PLANNING GRANTS.** The
14 superintendent of public instruction may expend up to \$100,000 from the grants - state school
15 aid line item in the appropriation bill for the superintendent of public instruction, as approved by
16 the sixty-first legislative assembly, for the purpose of providing planning grants to school
17 districts participating in reorganizations under chapter 15.1-12, for the biennium beginning
18 July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2011. A grant provided under this section may not exceed
19 \$25,000 and may not be awarded unless the student enrollment of the participating districts
20 exceeds three hundred sixty. If a grant is provided and the recipient districts vote not to
21 reorganize, the superintendent of public instruction shall withhold the grant amount that each
22 district received under this section from any state aid payable to the district.

23 **SECTION 47. REGIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS - GRANTS.** During each
24 year of the 2009-11 biennium, the superintendent of public instruction shall expend up to
25 \$200,000 from the grants - state school aid line item in the appropriation bill for the
26 superintendent of public instruction, as approved by the sixty-first legislative assembly, for the
27 purpose of providing grants in the amount of \$25,000, to each group of school districts which
28 has been designated as a regional education association under section 15.1-09.1-02. Before
29 September first of each year, the superintendent of public instruction shall divide each grant by
30 the number of school districts in the respective association and forward that portion of each
31 school district's individual grant directly to the association in which the district participates.

1 **SECTION 48. FEDERAL IMPACT AID - BASELINE RECALCULATION - GRANT.**

2 1. If the amount of federal impact aid received by a school district during the 2006-07
3 school year resulted in that district losing state aid under section 15.1-27-35.3
4 during the 2007-09 biennium, the superintendent shall reestablish that district's
5 baseline by:

6 a. Adding together the amount of state aid that the district would have received
7 during the 2006-07 school year if in determining the district's ending fund
8 balance the average amount of federal impact aid received by the district
9 during the 2005-06 and 2006-07 school years had been used, rather than the
10 actual amount received during the 2006-07 school year;

11 b. Subtracting the amount received by the district during the 2006-07 school
12 year for transportation aid, special education excess reimbursements, special
13 education contracts, prior year funding adjustments, and per student
14 payments for participation in regional education associations; and

15 c. Dividing the amount determined under subdivision b by the district's 2007-08
16 weighted student units.

17 2. On or before August 1, 2009, the superintendent of public instruction shall use up
18 to \$300,000 from moneys appropriated in the grants - state school aid line item in
19 the appropriation bill for the superintendent of public instruction, as approved by
20 the legislative assembly, to provide to a school district a grant equaling the
21 difference in the 2007-09 biennium state aid payments that resulted from the
22 baseline recalculation required by this section.

23 **SECTION 49. DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT**

24 **IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.**

25 1. By June 30, 2012, each school district that receives a deferred maintenance and
26 physical plant improvement grant from the superintendent of public instruction
27 shall:

28 a. Submit to the superintendent documentation detailing how the grant funds
29 were expended; and

30 b. Return any unexpended grant funds to the superintendent for deposit in the
31 general fund.

- 1 2. The superintendent of public instruction may provide a deferred maintenance and
2 physical plant improvement grant only to a school district that:
- 3 a. Has a general fund levy equal to at least one hundred fifty mills for the taxable
4 year 2008;
- 5 b. Is not precluded from receiving state aid by the provisions of section
6 15.1-27-35.3; and
- 7 c. Provides a monetary match equal to the grant amount.

8 **SECTION 50. AMENDMENT.** Section 55 of chapter 163 of the 2007 Session Laws is
9 amended and reenacted as follows:

10 **SECTION 55. CONTINGENT MONEY - 2007-09.**

- 11 1. In determining the availability of contingent money under this section, the
12 superintendent of public instruction shall first add to the money in the grants - state
13 school aid line item in Senate Bill No. 2013, as approved by the sixtieth legislative
14 assembly, any money that was appropriated to the superintendent for special
15 education contracts in Senate Bill No. 2013 and which remains after the
16 superintendent complied with all statutory special education contract payment
17 obligations imposed for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30,
18 2009.
- 19 2. If any money that was appropriated to the superintendent of public instruction for
20 state aid payments to school districts or added to the grants - state school aid line
21 item in accordance with subsection 1 remains after the superintendent complies
22 with all statutory payment obligations imposed for the biennium beginning July 1,
23 2007, and ending June 30, 2009, the superintendent shall:
- 24 ~~1.~~ a. Use the first \$1,000,000, or so much of that amount as may be necessary, to
25 pay any state obligations in excess of the amount appropriated for special
26 education contract charges;
- 27 ~~2.~~ b. Use the next \$2,000,000, or so much of that amount as may be necessary,
28 for the purpose of providing additional per student payments to school
29 districts participating in regional education associations under chapter
30 15.1-09.1;

1 school district expenditures in order to be provided with special education and related services,
2 the industrial commission shall transfer from the earnings and accumulated and undivided
3 profits of the Bank of North Dakota the amount the superintendent of public instruction certifies
4 is necessary to provide the statutorily required level of reimbursement. The superintendent of
5 public instruction shall file for introduction legislation requesting that the sixty-second legislative
6 assembly return any amount transferred under this section to the Bank of North Dakota.

7 **SECTION 53. REPEAL.** Sections 15.1-21-02.2, 15.1-27-20.1, and 15.1-38-01.2 of the
8 North Dakota Century Code are repealed.

9 **SECTION 54. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 10 of this Act becomes effective on July 1,
10 2010.

11 **SECTION 55. EMERGENCY.** Section 50 is declared to be an emergency measure.