

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1287

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Becker, Jones, Paulson, Paur, Schauer

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to initial teaching licenses for individuals completing alternative teacher certification
3 program; to provide for a legislative management report; and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-13-10. Criteria for teacher licensure.**

8 1. The board shall establish by rule the criteria for teacher licensure and the process for
9 issuing teaching licenses. The criteria must include considerations of character,
10 adequate educational preparation, and general fitness to teach.

11 2. The board may not require a teacher who graduated from an accredited teacher
12 education program on or before September 1, 1980, to earn any college credits in
13 native American or other multicultural courses as a condition of licensure or license
14 renewal.

15 3. This section does not affect the validity of teaching certificates in effect on July 31,
16 2001.

17 4. This section does not affect the qualifications for career and technical education
18 certificates, as otherwise established by law.

19 5. The board shall grant an initial license to an individual who:

20 a. Possesses a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution;

21 b. Passes a criminal history record check required by section 15.1-13-14; and

22 c. Successfully completes an alternative teacher certification program operated by a
23 nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
24 Code [26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)], which:

- 1 (1) Operates in at least five states;
- 2 (2) Has operated an alternative teacher certification program for at least ten
- 3 years; and
- 4 (3) Requires applicants to pass a subject area and pedagogy examination,
- 5 known as the professional teaching knowledge examination, to receive
- 6 certification.
- 7 6. An individual who obtains an initial license under subsection 5 is authorized to teach
- 8 the subject and educational levels for which the individual has successfully completed
- 9 the program described under subsection 5.
- 10 7. Upon completing two years of teaching under an initial license issued under
- 11 subsection 5, the licensee is eligible to apply for a five-year renewal license if the
- 12 individual:
 - 13 a. Completes the program's clinical experience program and the North Dakota
 - 14 teacher support system approved mentor program;
 - 15 b. Meets the requirements of section 15.1-13-35 within two years of initial licensure;
 - 16 and
 - 17 c. Meets the requirements of human resources and cultural directives required
 - 18 coursework within two years of initial licensure which includes Native American
 - 19 studies, cultural diversity, strategies for creating learning environments that
 - 20 contribute to positive human relationships, and strategies for teaching and
 - 21 assessing diverse learners.
- 22 8. An individual who obtains an initial or renewal license is authorized to teach in the
- 23 subject areas of:
 - 24 a. Elementary education;
 - 25 b. English language arts;
 - 26 c. United States and world history;
 - 27 d. Mathematics;
 - 28 e. General science;
 - 29 f. Biology;
 - 30 g. Chemistry; and
 - 31 h. Physics.

1 **SECTION 2. ALTERNATIVE TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - REPORT TO**
2 **LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT.** The education standards and practices board shall provide the
3 legislative management a status report during the 2019-20 interim and the 2021-22 interim
4 regarding the number of teacher licenses issued under an alternative teacher certification
5 program, the effectiveness of the program, the quality of instruction provided under the
6 program, and whether the program is accomplishing desired objectives. The report must include
7 a recommendation regarding continuation of the program.

8 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2023, and after that
9 date is ineffective.