

February 17, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1497

Introduced by

Representatives Maki, Marschall, Monson, Jonas

Senator Schaible

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 50-11.1-21 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to age requirements for an approved four-year old program; and to
3 declare an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 50-11.1-21 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 7 1. ~~Any~~A person or school district operating or seeking to operate a four-year old program
8 may request approval for a two-year period of the four-year old program from the
9 department. The department shall approve a four-year old program if the program:
- 10 a. Is taught by individuals licensed or approved to teach in early childhood
11 education by the education standards and practices board ~~or approved to teach~~
12 ~~in early childhood education by the education standards and practices board;~~
 - 13 b. Follows four-year old program requirements approved by the department;
 - 14 c. Is in compliance with all municipal and state health, fire, and safety requirements;
 - 15 d. Limits enrollment to children who have reached the age of four years old before
16 August first in the year of enrollment, unless the child will be four years old before
17 December first and the school district determines, based on child development
18 factors, including development milestones, school readiness, and other individual
19 considerations, to allow a child to enroll based on a request;

- 1 e. Submits a nonrefundable fee of fifty dollars ~~at the time~~when the application is
2 filed. All fees collected under this section must be paid to the department and
3 must be used to defray the cost of investigating, inspecting, and evaluating
4 applications for approval; and
- 5 f. Is in compliance with this chapter.

6 **SECTION 2. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.