

**2025 HOUSE EDUCATION**

**HB 1329**

# 2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Education Committee Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1329  
1/28/2025

Relating to duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

10:57 a.m. Chairman Heinert called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber- Beck, Representatives, Conmy, Hager, Hatlestad, Hauck, Heilman, Jonas, Longmuir, Maki, Marchall, Morton, Novak, Osowski

### Discussion Topics:

- Clarification of language
- K-12 Budget
- Teacher salaries
- Teacher shortages
- Reading scores
- Student Success
- Student learning outcomes
- Taxpayer transparency
- State expenditure

10:58 a.m. Representative O' Brien introduced the bill and submitted testimony. #32155

11:04 a.m. Amy De Kok, Executive Director of the North Dakota School Board Association, NDSBA, testified in opposition and submitted testimony. #32043

11:09 a.m. Sherry Neas, Director of Shared Services Division, Office of Management and Budget, OMB, testified neutrally and submitted testimony. #31916

11:13 a.m. Chairman Heinert closed the hearing.

*Leah Kuball, Committee Clerk*



Neutral Testimony on  
**House Bill 1329**  
**House Education Committee**  
 January 28, 2025

#### TESTIMONY OF

#### **Sherry Neas, Director, Shared Services Division**

Chairman Heinert and members of the committee. I am Sherry Neas, Shared Services Division Director within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB is neutral on HB 1329.

OMB has discussed its concerns regarding this bill with the primary sponsor, Rep. O'Brien. We discussed an amendment to remove OMB from this bill because state law (North Dakota Century Code section 54-44.1-18) already requires OMB to maintain a searchable database of expenditures for state agencies and higher education institutions. The Financial Transparency website is on the OMB website at [www.omb.nd.gov](http://www.omb.nd.gov) with links to a checkbook, employee compensation, daily cash balance, revenues, funds, appropriations, and more.

OMB proposes amending the bill as follows (see attached):

- Page 1, Lines 2 and 14 – Remove the reference to N.D.C.C. Chapter 54-44.4. This is the state procurement chapter for which OMB must promulgate rules.
- <sup>Lines 16-17 remove omb</sup> Page 1, Line 19, remove, "a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04;"
- Page 1, Line 22, remove, "d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education."
- Page 2, Line 22, remove, "The office of management and budget"

Mr. Chairman and committee members, this concludes my testimony. I ask your support for an amendment to remove OMB from the requirements of HB 1329. I would be happy to answer any questions.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1329 AMENDMENT

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-02 and a new section to chapter ~~54-44.4~~ of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

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

**SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Training of school officials.**

The superintendent of public instruction shall:

1. Contract for training services for school board members, superintendents, principals, and business managers relating to the requirements of section 2 of this Act.
2. Ensure the training includes academic best practices, personnel management, financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.

**SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter ~~54-44.4~~ of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Government spending database - Requirements - State treasurer - Office of management and budget - Superintendent of public instruction.**

1. As used in this section, "submitting party" means:

~~a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04;~~

~~ab. A political subdivision;~~

~~be. A school district; and~~

~~d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education.~~

2. The state treasurer shall collect data from submitting parties and establish and maintain a government spending database that is accessible without cost through the



- 1 internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from submitting parties. The  
2 data must be updated at least monthly.
- 3 3. The database must include for each expenditure:
- 4 a. The amount paid.  
5 b. The payment date.  
6 c. The recipient name.  
7 d. The paying entity.  
8 e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.  
9 f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:  
10 (1) A description of curriculum.  
11 (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.  
12 (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.  
13 g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state  
14 and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school  
15 districts and institutions of higher education.
- 16 4. The database must provide:
- 17 a. Search capabilities.  
18 b. Data aggregation tools.  
19 c. Download options in common formats.  
20 d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.  
21 e. Regular updates of all information.
- 22 5. ~~The office of management and budget, in coordination with the~~ The state treasurer, shall  
23 establish data submission standards for the submitting parties, develop security  
24 protocols, create reporting schedules, and ensure compliance with section 44-04-18.
- 25 6. A submitting party shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of  
26 the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this  
27 section.

28 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STATE TREASURER - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

29 **DATABASE.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury,  
30 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$350,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary,

- 1 to the state treasurer for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a government spending
- 2 database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.
- 3 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 1 and 2 of this Act become effective July 1, 2026.



**NDSBA**  
NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL  
BOARDS ASSOCIATION

1224 West Owens Avenue  
Bismarck ND 58501  
1-800-932-8791 • (701)255-4127  
[www.ndsba.org](http://www.ndsba.org)

**HB 1329**  
**Testimony of Amy De Kok**  
**House Education Committee**  
**January 28, 2025**

Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is Amy De Kok, and I serve as the executive director for the North Dakota School Boards Association. I am here to express opposition to HB 1329, which mandates the establishment of a government spending database requiring detailed data submissions from local school districts, among other entities.

While transparency and accountability in government spending are laudable goals, this bill places an undue and unfunded burden on local school districts, particularly on school district business managers, without addressing critical implementation and funding concerns. I urge the Committee to carefully consider the following points:

**Immense Burden on Local School Districts**

HB 1329 requires school districts to provide extensive, detailed expenditure data, including descriptions of educational materials, curriculum, software specifications, and more. Compliance with these requirements would impose a significant administrative burden on already stretched school district business managers and staff. These professionals are responsible for myriad operational duties, including budget preparation, payroll processing, financial reporting, compliance with state and federal regulations, and oversight of day-to-day financial operations. Adding such labor-intensive data reporting requirements will overwhelm their already heavy workloads and divert time and resources away from their core responsibilities of supporting schools and students.

**No Identified Funding Mechanism**

The bill does not provide a funding mechanism to offset the costs that local school districts will incur to comply with the reporting requirements. Data collection, verification, and submission will require additional staff time, upgraded technology systems, and possibly hiring new personnel—expenses that are not accounted for in this legislation. This unfunded mandate unfairly shifts financial responsibility to local school districts, many of which are already facing tight budgets.

### **Lack of Clarity on Database Accessibility**

The bill is silent on whether the proposed database to be built by the state treasurer will be accessible to school districts for submission, verification, and review of the required information or if the system will be compatible or integratable with their existing systems. Without clear guidance or tools to facilitate data submission, the process becomes even more cumbersome and prone to errors, further exacerbating the challenges faced by school districts.

### **Redundancy of Information**

The information required for this database is already available to any member of the public at the local level. School districts maintain comprehensive financial records, which are largely held electronically, and provide transparency through publicly available budgets and audits. Mandating a separate reporting system duplicates existing efforts, leading to inefficiency without clear added value.

### **Lack of Demonstrated Need**

There has been no compelling evidence presented to justify the creation of this database as it pertains to school district expenditures. Local schools are already transparent with their finances, and the additional layer of reporting mandated by this bill appears unnecessary. It risks creating a solution in search of a problem, while imposing significant burdens on local education systems.

In conclusion, while the intention behind HB 1329 is appreciated, its implementation would place undue financial and administrative burdens on local school districts without providing any corresponding funding or demonstrated need. The likely impact on school district business managers, who are already tasked with significant responsibilities, cannot be overstated. Their ability to effectively manage school district finances and operations would be severely hindered by the additional workload imposed by this legislation. I respectfully urge the Committee to oppose this legislation or, at a minimum, amend it to provide the necessary funding and support for local entities to comply with these requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.



# North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
600 EAST BOULEVARD  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



## Representative Emily O'Brien

District 42  
2029 Second Avenue North  
Grand Forks, ND 58203-3311  
[eobrien@ndlegis.gov](mailto:eobrien@ndlegis.gov)

## COMMITTEES:

Appropriations  
Appropriations - Human Resources Division

01/28/2025

## House Bill 1329

### House Education Committee

Chairman Heinert and Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck,

I am Representative Emily O'Brien; I represent District 42 in Grand Forks.

Before you is House Bill 1329, the intentions of this bill is to have transparency on where the money is going and ensure more money is going into the classroom. Before you may not be the perfect bill- but I am hoping that stakeholders can come to the table to come up with solutions that are reasonable and equitable to support transparency in where the money is getting dispersed.

In North Dakota, our K-12 budget is \$2.5 Billion dollars. We have an enrollment of 115,797 students and 9,233 teachers in our public schools. While campaigning, one of the things I continued to hear was the troublingly low levels of teacher pay, paraprofessionals and aids in our classrooms.

Teachers' pays went further nearly 40 years ago than they do today due to rising inflation and flat pay. Fourth grade reading scores have not improved for more than three decades. We are asking teachers to do more in the classroom, with less. As a mom of a kindergartener, who has been begging to go to school since she was two, I want to ensure that our educators have every tool in their classroom to ensure student success.

K-12 school spending has increased 340% since 19860, even when controlling for inflation. In 1960, it took 13 students to pay a teacher's salary. Today it only takes four. So, where does the money go?

Education spending transparency allows parents, school boards, and taxpayers to stand up to unaccountable bureaucracies that waste money and fail to educate children. By creating a window into each purpose that a



school makes, states empower parents to advocate for wasting less and putting more money into higher teacher pay and other research-backed solutions that are proven to improve student learning outcomes.

The increased number of administrators, support staff, and instructional aids - please do not get me wrong, these people are important to the operations of our schools. But this increase has not improved student learning outcomes - and has made it nearly impossible to increase pay that would attract and retain more high-quality teachers. Publishing school-by-school information will help ensure that taxpayers know how their money is being spent - and can hold schools accountable.

Working together, we can set up a public checkbook portal - or add to our Office of Management and Budget Transparency Checkbook Portal for local schools to publish detailed information about every dollar that is being spent.

Local officials, parents, and members of the public would have immediate access to the information on how every dollar is spent, whether an administrator's salary, office supplies, or new curricula.

This policy can be even more effective when paired with mandatory training for superintendents, principals, and school board members so that they understand the information and what actions they can take when they find something concerning.

When communities come together, armed with facts about how public-school dollars are spent, parents can hold schools accountable and advocate for proven strategies that improve student outcomes and compensate teachers fairly.

Since we have the OMB Transparency Checkbook for state expenditures - we can strike on page 1, line 19. "A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04". This piece would indicate every agency that is part of the state budget process would be included. This is a duplication of 54-44.1-18, which requires OMB to maintain a searchable database of state expenditures.

That concludes my testimony. Thank you, Chairman Heinert and members of the committee.



# 2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Education Committee Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1329  
2/18/2025

Relating to duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

9:28 a.m. Chairman Heinert called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber- Beck, Representatives, Conmy, Hager, Hatlestad, Hauck, Heilman, Jonas, Longmuir, Maki, Marchall, Morton, Novak, Osowski

### Discussion Topics:

- Committee action

9:45 a.m. Vice Chairman Schreiber- Beck proposed an amendment to change the bill into a study.

9:45 a.m. Representative Novak seconded the motion.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick R. Hatlestad	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Matthew Heilman	Y
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Roger A. Maki	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Desiree Morton	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	Y
Representative Doug Osowski	Y

Motion carried: 14-0-0

9:47 a.m. Representative Heilman moved to further amend by changing the language from shall to may.

9:47 a.m. Representative Morton seconded the motion.

<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick R. Hatlestad	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Matthew Heilman	Y
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Roger A. Maki	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Desiree Morton	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	Y
Representative Doug Osowski	Y

Motion carried: 14-0-0

9:48 a.m. Representative Heilman moved a Do Pass as amended.

9:48 a.m. Hauck seconded the motion.

<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Patrick R. Hatlestad	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	Y
Representative Matthew Heilman	Y
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Roger A. Maki	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Desiree Morton	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	Y
Representative Doug Osowski	Y

Motion carried: 14-0-0

Bill carrier: Representative Heilman.

9:49 a.m. Chairman Heinert closed the hearing.

*Leah Kuball, Committee Clerk*

February 18, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

MS  
2/18/25  
1 of 4

1 A BILL for an Act to ~~create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-02 and a new section to~~  
2 ~~chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to duties of the superintendent of~~  
3 ~~public instruction and~~ provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of  
4 a government spending database; and to provide an appropriation; ~~and to provide an effective~~  
5 ~~date.~~

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

7 ~~— SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
8 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

9 ~~— Training of school officials.~~

10 ~~— The superintendent of public instruction shall:~~

11 ~~— 1. Contract for training services for school board members, superintendents, principals,~~  
12 ~~and business managers relating to the requirements of section 2 of this Act.~~

13 ~~— 2. Ensure the training includes academic best practices, personnel management,~~  
14 ~~financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.~~

15 ~~— SECTION 2. A new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created~~  
16 ~~and enacted as follows:~~

17 ~~— Government spending database - Requirements - State treasurer - Office of~~  
18 ~~management and budget - Superintendent of public instruction.~~

19 ~~— 1. As used in this section, "submitting party" means:~~

20 ~~— a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04:~~

- 1 ~~b. A political subdivision;~~
- 2 ~~c. A school district; and~~
- 3 ~~d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education.~~
- 4 ~~2. The state treasurer shall collect data from submitting parties and establish and~~
- 5 ~~maintain a government spending database that is accessible without cost through the~~
- 6 ~~internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from submitting parties. The~~
- 7 ~~data must be updated at least monthly.~~
- 8 ~~3. The database must include for each expenditure:~~
- 9 ~~a. The amount paid.~~
- 10 ~~b. The payment date.~~
- 11 ~~c. The recipient name.~~
- 12 ~~d. The paying entity.~~
- 13 ~~e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.~~
- 14 ~~f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:~~
- 15 ~~(1) A description of curriculum.~~
- 16 ~~(2) The publisher and author of a textbook.~~
- 17 ~~(3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.~~
- 18 ~~g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state~~
- 19 ~~and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school~~
- 20 ~~districts and institutions of higher education.~~
- 21 ~~4. The database must provide:~~
- 22 ~~a. Search capabilities.~~
- 23 ~~b. Data aggregation tools.~~
- 24 ~~c. Download options in common formats.~~
- 25 ~~d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.~~
- 26 ~~e. Regular updates of all information.~~
- 27 ~~5. The office of management and budget, in coordination with the state treasurer shall~~
- 28 ~~establish data submission standards for the submitting parties, develop security~~
- 29 ~~protocols, create reporting schedules, and ensure compliance with section 44-04-18.~~



~~6. A submitting party shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this section.~~

#### **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

**DATABASE.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:

1. A review of the training services necessary for school board members, superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.
2. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information for each expenditure:
  - a. The amount paid.
  - b. The payment date.
  - c. The recipient name.
  - d. The paying entity.
  - e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.
  - f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:
    - (1) A description of curriculum.
    - (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.
    - (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.
  - g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school districts and institutions of higher education.
3. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:
  - a. Search capabilities.
  - b. Data aggregation tools.
  - c. Download options in common formats.
  - d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.
  - e. Regular updates of all information.

The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - ~~STATE TREASURER~~LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL -  
CONSULTANTS FOR INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY -  
ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$350,000~~\$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the ~~state treasurer~~legislative council for the purpose of ~~establishing and maintaining~~contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.

~~SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act become effective July 1, 2026.~~



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
HB 1329**

**Education Committee (Rep. Heinert, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** [\(25.1112.01001\)](#) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). HB 1329 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

**2025 SENATE EDUCATION**

**HB 1329**

# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Education Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1329  
3/19/2025

To provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a government spending database; and to provide for an appropriation.

10:58 a.m. Vice Chairman Lemm called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Vice-Chairman Lemm; Senators: Axtman, Boschee, Gerhardt.

Members Absent: Chairman Beard, Senator Wobbema

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Transparency of allocated funds
- Increase of all staff
- Local school expenditures

10:58 a.m. Representative O'Brien, District #42, introduced the bill, answered committee questions and submitted testimony #43020.

11:05 a.m. Vice Chairman Lemm closed the hearing.

*Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk*



# North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
600 EAST BOULEVARD  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



## Representative Emily O'Brien

District 42

2029 Second Avenue North  
Grand Forks, ND 58203-3311

[eobrien@ndlegis.gov](mailto:eobrien@ndlegis.gov)

## COMMITTEES:

Appropriations

Appropriations - Human Resources Division

03/19/2025

## House Bill 1329

### Senate Education Committee

Chairman Beard and members of the Senate Education Committee,

I am Representative Emily O'Brien; I represent District 42 in Grand Forks.

Before you is House Bill 1329, the intentions of this bill is to have transparency on where the money allocated from the legislature to our local school districts is being spent. Currently, legislators know how much funding each district receives but lack detailed insights into the actual expenditures.

We heard in the House opposition testimony that this would be an immense burden on local school districts. Our school administrators are already doing budget preparation, payroll processing, and financial reporting at the local level - it should be no different to report the information at the state level.

In North Dakota, our K-12 budget is \$2.5 Billion dollars. We have an enrollment of 115,797 students and 9,233 teachers in our public schools. While campaigning, one of the things I continued to hear was the troublingly low levels of teacher pay, paraprofessionals and aids in our classrooms.

Teachers' pays went further nearly 40 years ago than they do today due to rising inflation and flat pay. We are asking teachers to do more in the classroom, with less. As a mom of a kindergartener, who has been begging to go to school since she was two, I want to ensure that our educators have every tool in their classroom to ensure student success.

K-12 school spending has increased 340% since 1960, even when controlling for inflation. In 1960, it took 13 students to pay a teacher's salary. Today it only takes four. So, where does the money go?

Education spending transparency allows parents, school boards, and taxpayers to stand up to unaccountable bureaucracies that waste money and fail to educate children. By creating a window into each purpose that a school makes, states empower parents to advocate for wasting less and putting more money into higher teacher pay and other research-backed solutions that are proven to improve student learning outcomes.

The increased number of administrators, support staff, and instructional aids - please do not get me wrong, these people are important to the operations of our schools. But this increase has not improved student learning outcomes - and has made it nearly impossible to increase pay that would attract and retain more high-quality teachers. Publishing school-by-school information will help ensure that taxpayers know how their money is being spent - and can hold schools accountable.

Local officials, parents, and members of the public would have immediate access to the information on how every dollar is spent, whether an administrator's salary, office supplies, or new curricula. When communities come together, armed with facts about how public-school dollars are spent, parents can hold schools accountable and advocate for proven strategies that improve student outcomes and compensate teachers fairly.

Working together, we can set up a public checkbook. I learned late last week about some of our different vendors that we currently utilize that may be able to integrate this financial information from our local schools. We discussed the financial transactions that are occurring and monitoring student behaviors and outcomes - which is an additional financial impact.

I am requesting some time to work with the vendors to explore potential options and criteria to move forward whether that is through a study or platform we already have available.

That concludes my testimony. Thank you, Chairman Beard and members of the committee.

# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1329  
4/1/2025

To provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a government spending database; and to provide for an appropriation.
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2:54 p.m. Chairman Beard called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Beard; Vice-Chairman Lemm; Senators: Axtman, Boschee, Gerhardt and Wobbema

**Discussion Topics:**

- Transparency of allocated funds

2:57 p.m. Senator Boschee will follow up with the bill sponsor.

2:57 p.m. Chairman Beard closed the hearing.

*Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk*



# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Education Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1329  
4/2/2025

To provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a government spending database; and to provide for an appropriation.

10:25 a.m. Chairman Beard called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Beard; Vice-Chairman Lemm; Senators: Axtman, Boschee, Gerhardt and Wobbema

### Discussion Topics:

- Data collection and compilation
- Increase funding
- Transparency of funding

10:25 a.m. Chairman Beard opened the hearing up for discussion regarding a possible amendment submitted by Representative O'Brien, District #42.

10:37 a.m. Senator Boschee moved Amendment LC #25.1112.02001.

10:37 a.m. Senator Wobbema seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Todd Beard	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Josh Boschee	Y
Senator Justin Gerhardt	Y
Senator Mike Wobbema	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-0

10:38 a.m. Senator Boschee moved Do Pass as amended and rerefer to Appropriations.

10:38 a.m. Senator Wobbema seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Todd Beard	Y
Senator Randy D. Lemm	Y
Senator Michelle Axtman	Y
Senator Josh Boschee	Y
Senator Justin Gerhardt	Y
Senator Mike Wobbema	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-0

Senator Boschee will carry the bill.

**Additional written testimony:**

Representative O'Brien, District #42, submitted testimony in favor #44566.

10:40 a.m. Chairman Beard closed the hearing.

*Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk*

April 2, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

4/2/25 VC  
1 of 4

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a~~  
2 ~~government spending database; and to provide an appropriation.~~ for an Act to create and enact  
3 a new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the duties of the  
4 superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database;  
5 to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

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

7 ~~SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING~~  
8 ~~DATABASE.~~ During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying  
9 the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:  
10 1. A review of the training services necessary for school board members,  
11 superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government  
12 spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial  
13 operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.  
14 2. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information for  
15 each expenditure:  
16 a. The amount paid.  
17 b. The payment date.  
18 c. The recipient name.  
19 d. The paying entity.  
20 e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.

1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:~~

2 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (1) A description of curriculum.~~

3 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.~~

4 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.~~

5 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state~~  
6 ~~and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school~~  
7 ~~districts and institutions of higher education.~~

8 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 3. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:~~

9 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. Search capabilities.~~

10 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Data aggregation tools.~~

11 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Download options in common formats.~~

12 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.~~

13 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ e. Regular updates of all information.~~

14 ~~The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any~~  
15 ~~legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.~~

16 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - CONSULTANTS FOR**~~  
17 ~~**INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY - ONE-TIME FUNDING.**~~

18 ~~There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise~~  
19 ~~appropriated, the sum of \$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the~~  
20 ~~legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study~~  
21 ~~regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1,~~  
22 ~~2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time~~  
23 ~~funding item.~~

24 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
25 and enacted as follows:

26 **Government spending database - Requirements - Superintendent of public**  
27 **instruction.**

28 **1. As used in this section, "submitting party" means:**

29 **a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04;**

30 **b. A political subdivision;**

31 **c. A school district; and**



- 1       d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education.
- 2       2. The superintendent of public instruction shall collect data from submitting parties and
- 3       establish and maintain a government spending database that is accessible without
- 4       cost through the internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from
- 5       submitting parties. The data must be updated at least monthly.
- 6       3. The database must include for each expenditure:
- 7       a. The amount paid.
- 8       b. The payment date.
- 9       c. The recipient name.
- 10      d. The paying entity.
- 11      e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.
- 12      f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:
- 13          (1) A description of curriculum.
- 14          (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.
- 15          (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.
- 16      g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state
- 17          and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school
- 18          districts and institutions of higher education.
- 19      4. The database must provide:
- 20          a. Search capabilities.
- 21          b. Data aggregation tools.
- 22          c. Download options in common formats.
- 23          d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.
- 24          e. Regular updates of all information.
- 25      5. A submitting party shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of
- 26          the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this
- 27          section.

## **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -**

**GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE - ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of public instruction

1 for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a government spending database, for the  
2 biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this  
3 section is considered a one time funding item.

4 **SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 1 of this Act becomes effective July 1, 2026.



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
ENGROSSED HB 1329**

**Education Committee (Sen. Beard, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1112.02001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1329 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

25.1112.01000

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1329

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

- 1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-02 and a new section to
- 2 chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to duties of the superintendent of
- 3 public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an
- 4 appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

### 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

- 6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
- 7 and enacted as follows:

#### 8 **Training of school officials.**

9 The superintendent of public instruction shall:

- 10 1. Contract for training services for school board members, superintendents, principals,
- 11 and business managers relating to the requirements of section 2 of this Act.
- 12 2. Ensure the training includes academic best practices, personnel management,
- 13 financial operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.

- 14 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
- 15 and enacted as follows:

#### 16 **Government spending database - Requirements - ~~State treasurer~~ Office of**

17 **~~management and budget~~ Superintendent of public instruction.**

- 18 1. As used in this section, "submitting party" means:
- 19 a. A budget unit under section 54-44.1-04;
- 20 b. A political subdivision;
- 21 c. A school district; and
- 22 d. An institution under the control of the state board of higher education.
- 23 2. The ~~state treasurer~~ <sup>superintendent of public instruction</sup> shall collect data from submitting parties and establish and
- 24 maintain a government spending database that is accessible without cost through the

1 internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from submitting parties. The  
2 data must be updated at least monthly.

3 3. The database must include for each expenditure:

4 a. The amount paid.

5 b. The payment date.

6 c. The recipient name.

7 d. The paying entity.

8 e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.

9 f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:

10 (1) A description of curriculum.

11 (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.

12 (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.

13 g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state  
14 and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school  
15 districts and institutions of higher education.

16 4. The database must provide:

17 a. Search capabilities.

18 b. Data aggregation tools.

19 c. Download options in common formats.

20 d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.

21 e. Regular updates of all information.

22 5. ~~The office of management and budget, in coordination with the state treasurer shall~~  
23 ~~establish data submission standards for the submitting parties, develop security~~  
24 ~~protocols, create reporting schedules, and ensure compliance with section 44-04-18.~~

25 6. A submitting party shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of  
26 the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this  
27 section.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

28 **SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - ~~STATE TREASURER~~ - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

29 **DATABASE.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury,  
30 not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$250,000~~, or so much of the sum as may be necessary,  
\$500,000

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly

department of public instruction

- 1 to the ~~state treasurer~~ for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a government spending
- 2 database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.

- 3 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 1 and 2 of this Act become effective July 1, 2026.

**2025 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS**

**HB 1329**

# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations - Education and Environment Division Sakakawea Room, State Capitol

HB 1329  
4/8/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

10:08 a.m. Chairman Sorvaag called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Sorvaag, Senator Cole Conley, Senator Donald Schaible, Senator Scott Meyer.

Absent: Senator Paul J. Thomas.

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Transparency on School Expenditure of Allocated Funds.
- Teacher Compensation.
- Data Availability.

10:08 a.m. Representative O'Brien, District 42, introduced the bill in favor and submitted testimony #44784.

10:20 a.m. Adam Tescher, School Finance Officer, Dept. of Public Instruction, answered committee questions.

10:22 a.m. Todd Beard, District 23, testified in favor and answered committee questions.

10:25 a.m. Chairman Sorvaag closed the meeting.

*Steven Hall, Committee Clerk*



# North Dakota House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL  
600 EAST BOULEVARD  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



## Representative Emily O'Brien

District 42  
2029 Second Avenue North  
Grand Forks, ND 58203-3311  
[eobrien@ndlegis.gov](mailto:eobrien@ndlegis.gov)

## COMMITTEES:

Appropriations  
Appropriations - Human Resources Division

04/08/2025

## House Bill 1329 Senate Education Committee

Chairman Sorvaag and members of the Senate Appropriations Education and Environment Division Committee,

I am Representative Emily O'Brien; I represent District 42 in Grand Forks. Before you is House Bill 1329, the intentions of this bill is to have transparency on where the money allocated from the legislature to our local school districts is being spent. Currently, legislators know how much funding each district receives but lack detailed insights into the actual expenditures.

We heard in the House opposition testimony that this would be an immense burden on local school districts. Our school administrators are already doing budget preparation, payroll processing, and financial reporting at the local level - it should be no different to report the information at the state level.

In North Dakota, our K-12 budget is \$2.5 Billion dollars. We have an enrollment of 115,797 students and 9,233 teachers in our public schools. While campaigning, one of the things I continued to hear was the troublingly low levels of teacher pay, paraprofessionals and aids in our classrooms.

Teachers' pays went further nearly 40 years ago than they do today due to rising inflation and flat pay. We are asking teachers to do more in the classroom, with less. As a mom of a kindergartener, who has been begging to go to school since she was two, I want to ensure that our educators have every tool in their classroom to ensure student success.

K-12 school spending has increased 340% since 1960, even when controlling inflation. In 1960, it took 13 students to pay a teacher's salary. Today it only takes four. So, where does the money go?

Education spending transparency allows parents, school boards, and taxpayers to stand up to unaccountable bureaucracies that waste money and fail to educate children. By creating a window into each purpose that a



school makes, states empower parents to advocate for wasting less and putting more money into higher teacher pay and other research-backed solutions that are proven to improve student learning outcomes.

The increased number of administrators, support staff, and instructional aids - please do not get me wrong, these people are important to the operations of our schools. But this increase has not improved student learning outcomes - and has made it nearly impossible to increase pay that would attract and retain more high-quality teachers. Publishing school-by-school information will help ensure that taxpayers know how their money is being spent - and can hold schools accountable.

Local officials, parents, and members of the public would have immediate access to the information on how every dollar is spent, whether an administrator's salary, office supplies, or new curricula. When communities come together, armed with facts about how public-school dollars are spent, parents can hold schools accountable and advocate for proven strategies that improve student outcomes and compensate teachers fairly.

Working together, we can set up a public checkbook. Please find attached some sample visuals using sample data on our K-12 schools and transparency on spending at the local level.

Currently, the State of North Dakota uses Oracle's Cloud@Customer which is Oracle Cloud, within North Dakota's Data Center. Everything that is attached in this packet as samples could be spun up on the existing environment.

We could phase this in over the first two years at \$500,000 to start moving the needle on the financial data from our local school districts. My intentions are to be flexible with getting this ball rolling, rather than studying it. Spending money on the study just kicks the can down the road of financial data that the districts already have, we just must receive the actual expenses back from the districts and into a user-friendly platform for the public.

The Oracle platform can adjust the data to various charts - pie charts, bar charts and even provide a narrative along with those charts. As you can see below, there are various options over 5 years. I think having real-time data is important to our constituents. This includes the training and implementation of the data into the platform. Another item that was discussed on the platform is tracking student behavior, absenteeism which can be easily integrated.

I am requesting that this committee adopt the amendment before you, 25.1112.02003. I had a few technical errors and had cities, counties and higher education included in the draft before you - that was not my intention. That concludes my testimony. Thank you, Chairman Sorvaag and members of the committee.

April 4, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

*In place of the amendments (25.1112.02001) adopted by the Senate, House Bill No. 1329 is amended by amendment (25.1112.02003) as follows:*

1 A BILL ~~for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a~~  
2 ~~government spending database; and to provide an appropriation.~~ for an Act to create and enact  
3 a new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the duties of the  
4 superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database;  
5 to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

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

7 ~~— SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY— GOVERNMENT SPENDING—~~  
8 ~~DATABASE. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying~~  
9 ~~the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:~~  
10 ~~— 1. A review of the training services necessary for school board members,~~  
11 ~~superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government~~  
12 ~~spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial~~  
13 ~~operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.~~  
14 ~~— 2. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information for~~  
15 ~~each expenditure:~~  
16 ~~— a. The amount paid.~~  
17 ~~— b. The payment date.~~  
18 ~~— c. The recipient name.~~  
19 ~~— d. The paying entity.~~  
20 ~~— e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.~~



- 1 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:~~  
2 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (1) A description of curriculum.~~  
3 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.~~  
4 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.~~  
5 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state~~  
6 ~~and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school~~  
7 ~~districts and institutions of higher education.~~  
8 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ 3. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:~~  
9 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ a. Search capabilities.~~  
10 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ b. Data aggregation tools.~~  
11 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ c. Download options in common formats.~~  
12 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.~~  
13 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ e. Regular updates of all information.~~

14 ~~The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any~~  
15 ~~legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.~~

16 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - CONSULTANTS FOR**~~  
17 ~~**INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY - ONE-TIME FUNDING.**~~

18 ~~There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise~~  
19 ~~appropriated, the sum of \$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the~~  
20 ~~legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study~~  
21 ~~regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1,~~  
22 ~~2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time~~  
23 ~~funding item.~~

24 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
25 and enacted as follows:

26 **Government spending database - Requirements - Superintendent of public**  
27 **instruction.**

- 28 **1. The superintendent of public instruction shall collect data from school districts and**  
29 **establish and maintain a government spending database that is accessible without**  
30 **cost through the internet and contains detailed expenditure data collected from school**  
31 **districts. The data must be updated at least monthly.**



2. The database must include for each expenditure:

- a. The amount paid.
- b. The payment date.
- c. The recipient name.
- d. The paying entity.
- e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.
- f. With respect to educational materials:

- (1) A description of curriculum.
- (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.
- (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.

- g. A standardized categorization using nationally recognized standardized codes.

3. The database must provide:

- a. Search capabilities.
- b. Data aggregation tools.
- c. Download options in common formats.
- d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.
- e. Regular updates of all information.

4. A school district shall provide the required data as directed, ensure the accuracy of the data, and use existing resources for compliance with the requirements of this section.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -**

**GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE - ONE-TIME FUNDING.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of public instruction for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.

**SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Section 1 of this Act becomes effective on July 1, 2026.

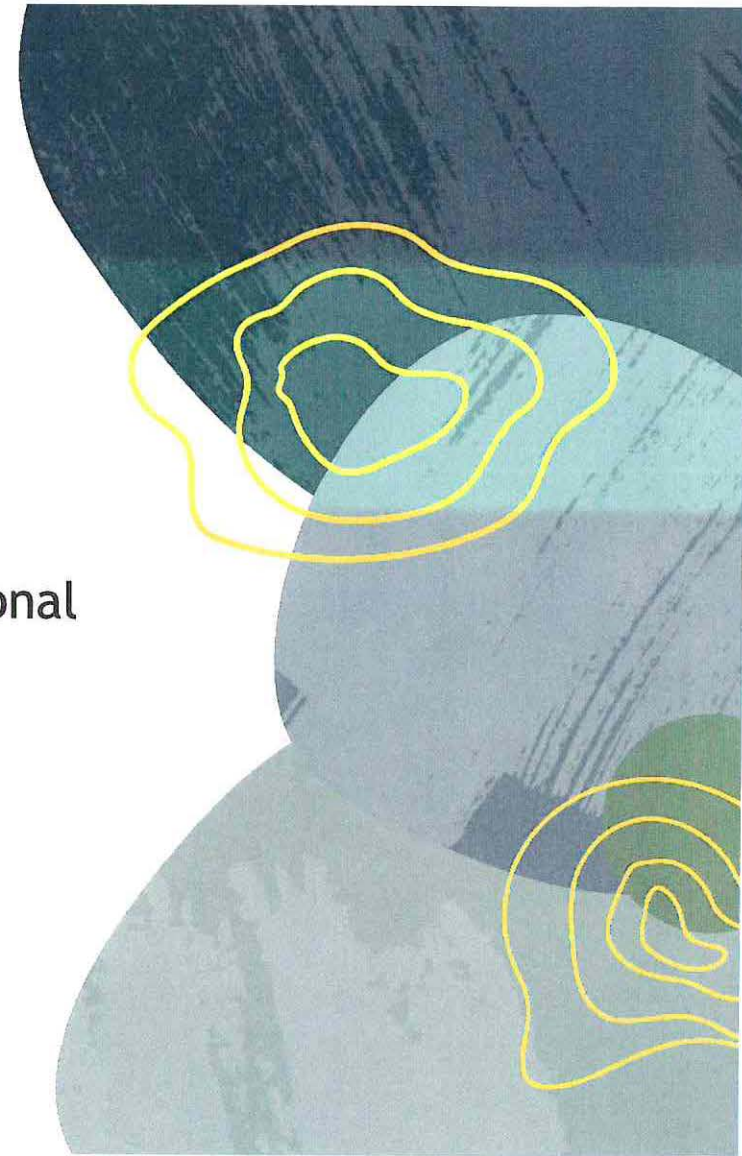
# Modernize Analytics for the State of North Dakota

Performance, Security, Cost Optimization & Operational Excellence

Nick Wallace, Cloud Platform Rep

Tyrus Clark, PMP Master Principal Enterprise Cloud Architect

March 26, 2025





# Mapping the key State of North Dakota Oracle Analytics Cloud on Autonomous Database

Helping the North Dakota realize your business vision

North Dakota K-12 Analytics Options	Year 1
OAC/ADW/ w/GG (Assumes real-time replication/Streaming)	\$226,409
OAC/ADW/ w/o_GG (Assumes Batch/Flat Files)	\$203,609

Estimated Services	Year 1
One-Time Transition Fee	\$81,444

Legend - Services In Scope
Oracle Analytics Cloud (OAC)
Autonomous Data Warehouse (ADW)

North Dakota K-12 Analytics Options	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total	Comments
OAC/ADW/ w/GG (Assumes real-time replication/Streaming)	\$226,409	\$226,409	\$226,409	\$226,409	\$226,409	\$1,132,047	
OAC/ADW/ w/o_GG (Assumes Batch/Flat Files)	\$203,609	\$203,609	\$203,609	\$203,609	\$203,609	\$1,018,046	Data Driven Recommendation

Key Assumptions Notations	Sizing	Measures
Terabytes per District	300	GB
Total Terabytes	91,648	GB
Number of District	179	
Number of Users Per District	2	
Total Number of Users	358	

## Key Assumptions

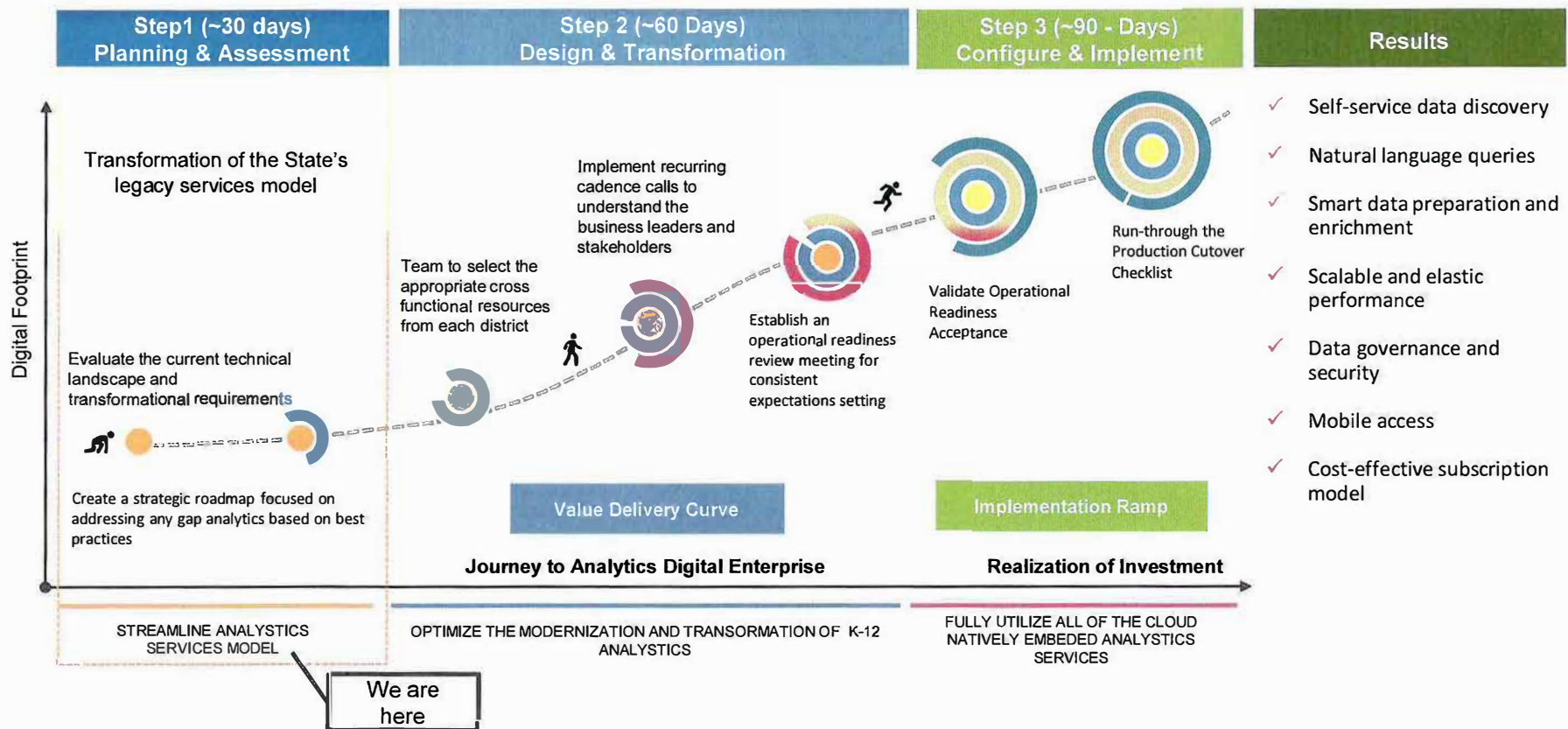
- Professional: Great for agile teams who need quick, intuitive analytics in the cloud.
- Each district will have or provide access to data in a flat-file
- Discount assumed to be 5% based on this standalone scope

## Three Phases Deployment

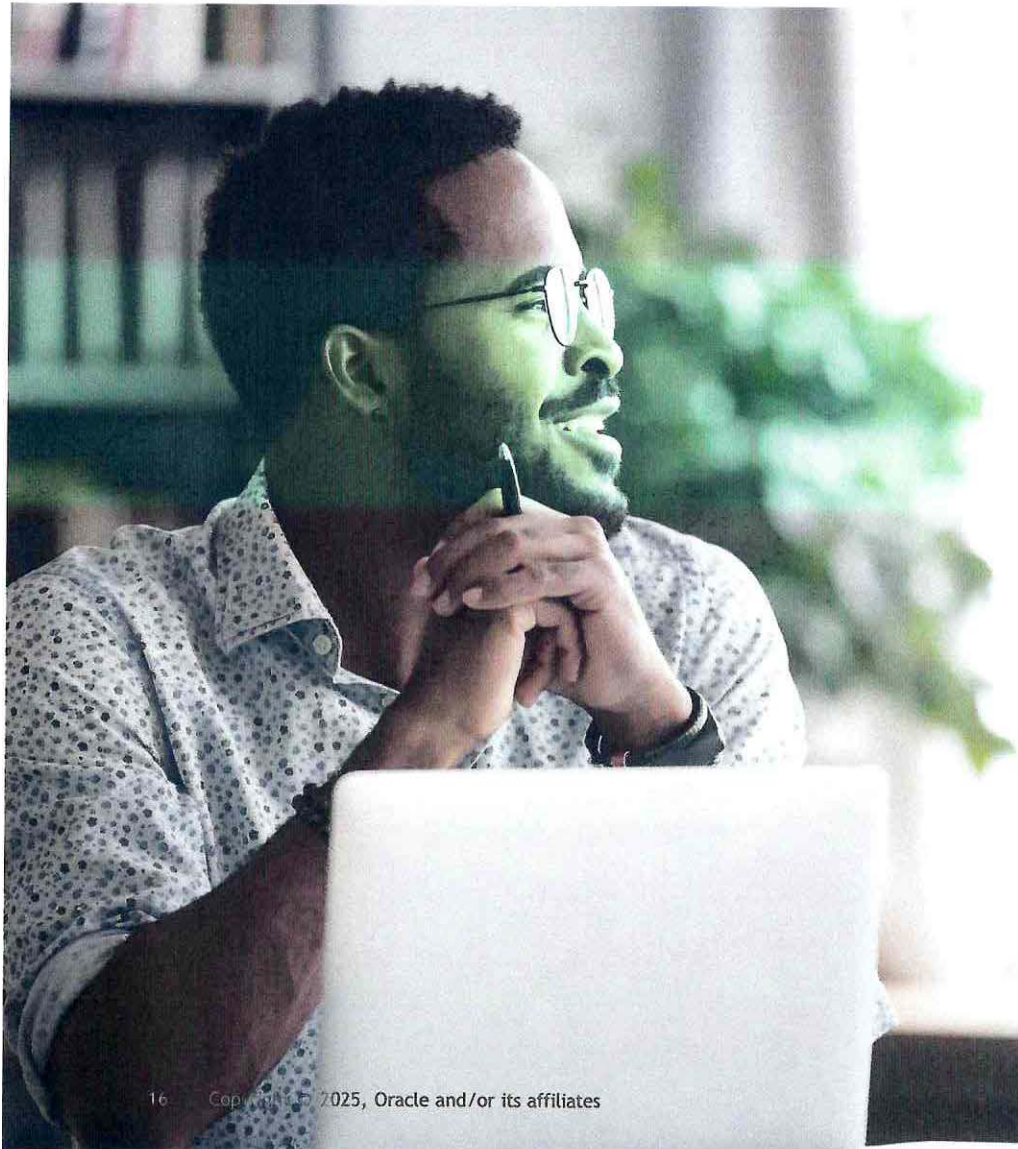
- 44 Districts @ \$67K in cost over 180 days

# Transformation Commitment Level of Effort

## The Oracle Approach to Modernization







## Executive Commitment

- Future State Architecture Services Design
  - ❖ Oracle Autonomous Database
  - ❖ Oracle Analytics Cloud
- Lower TCO and complexity of the OCI Services Model
- Superior performance backed by SLAs
- Unique capabilities with enhanced service operations, availability, security, automation, and control

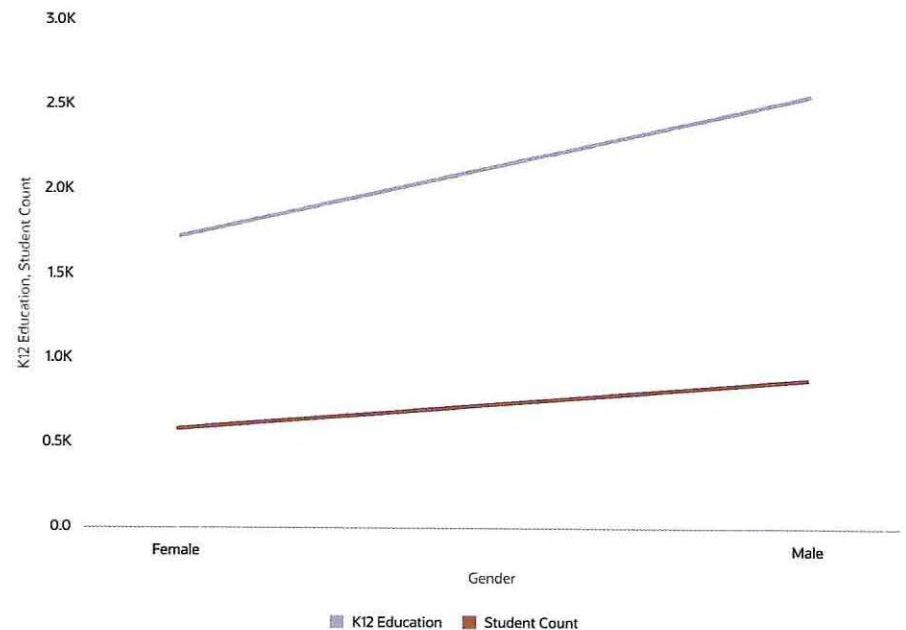
## Next steps





NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

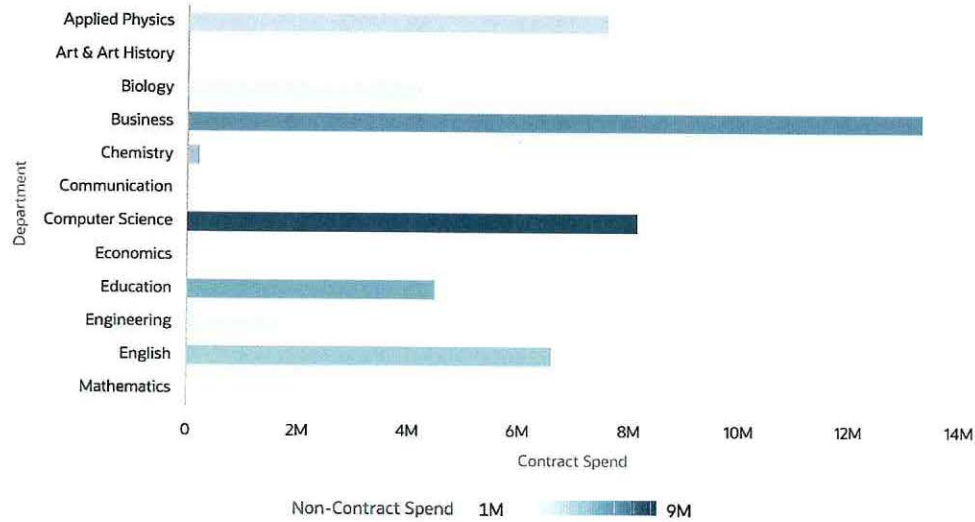
Student Count  
**20**



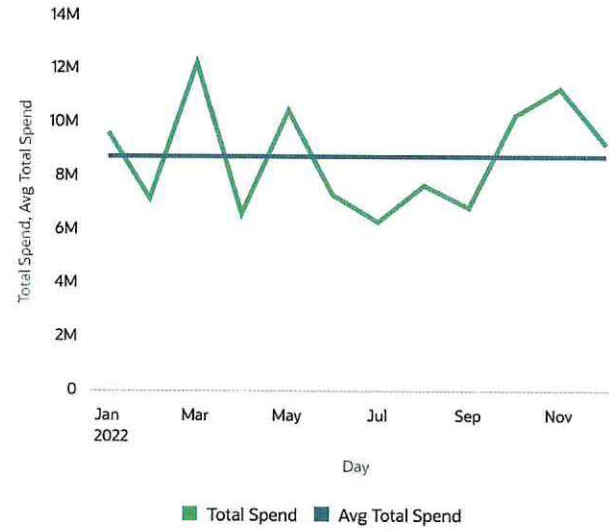


## ND workbook - Details

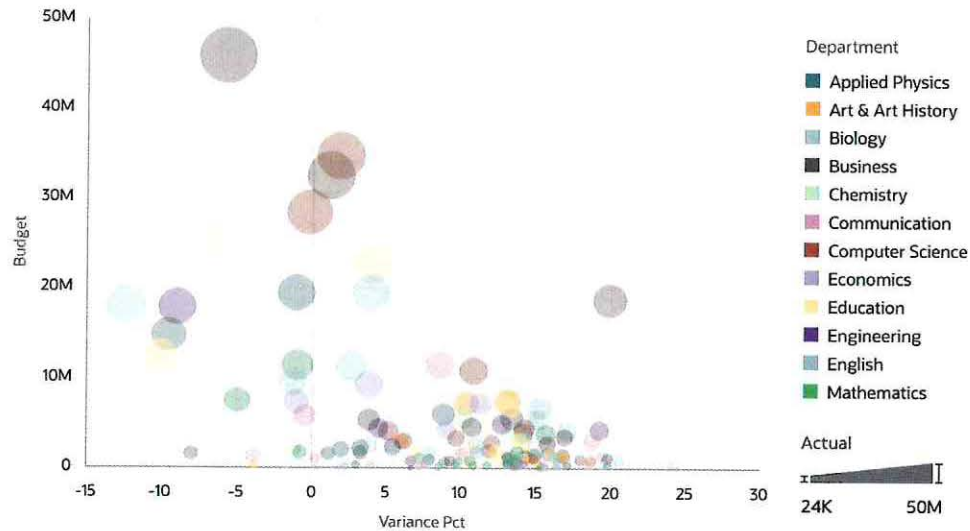
Spend by Department



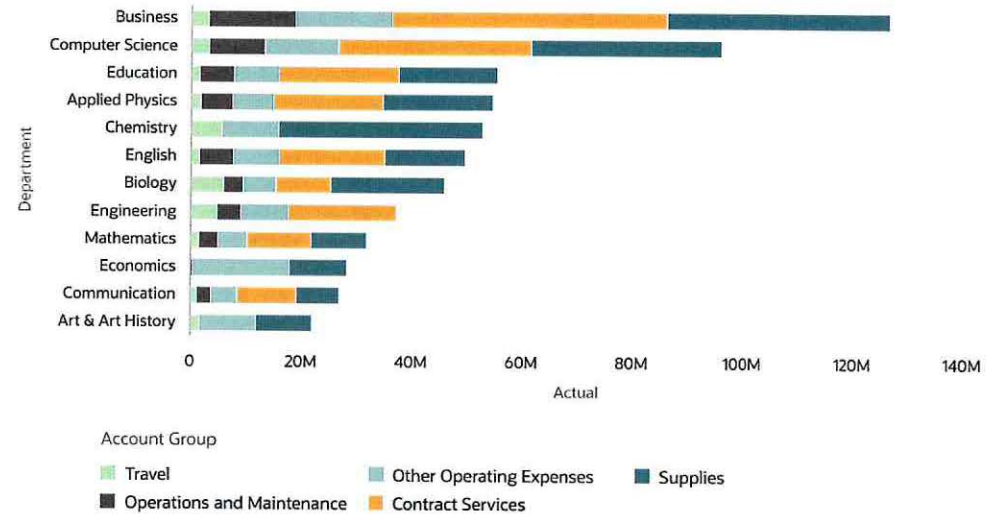
District Spend



Variance Pct, Budget by Account, Department, Actual



Actual by Department, Account Group



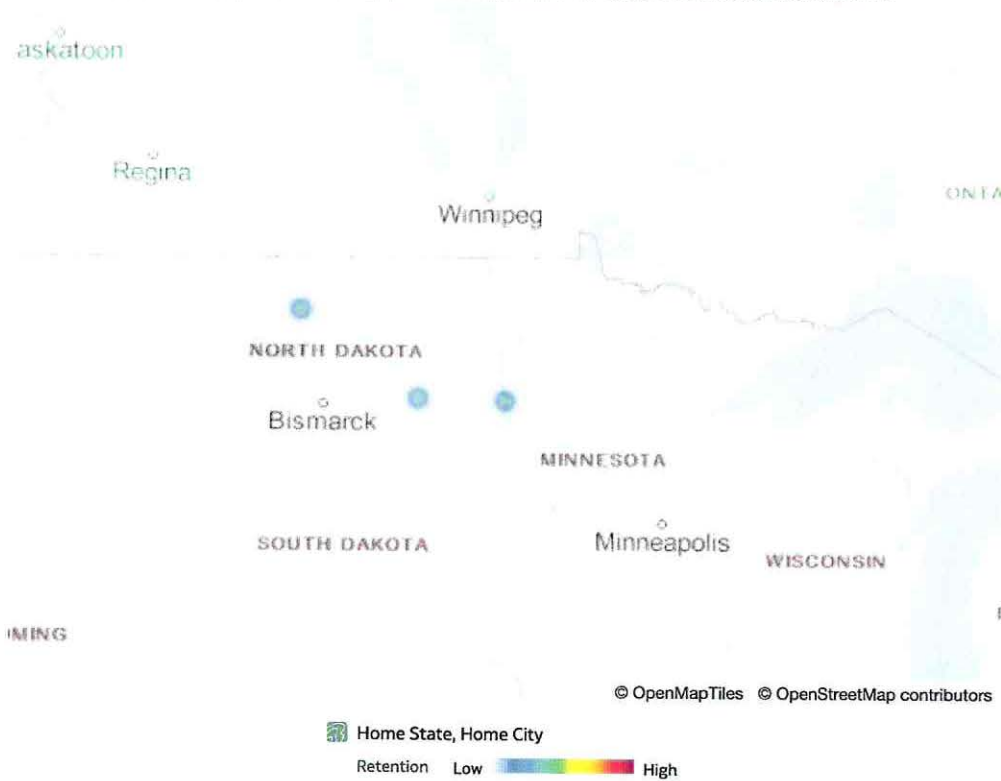
ND workbook - AI Insights

Measures Overview

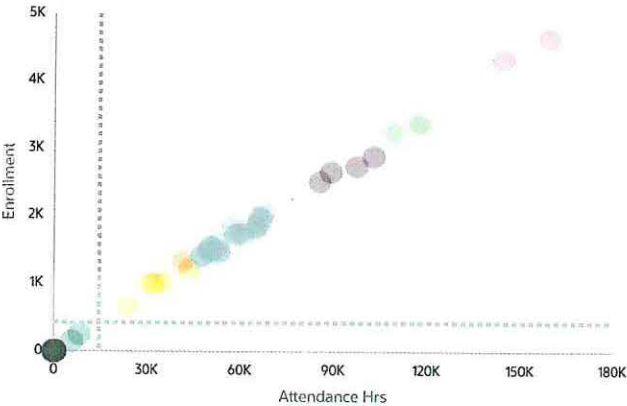
Row Count	Attendance Hrs by Record	Enrollment by Record	Ratio Attendance Hrs, Enrollment	Attendance Hrs	Enrollment
75,173	34.32	1.01	34.09	2,580,119.6	75,695

Home State, Home City, Retention, Enrollment

Home State: ND Gender: All Home State: ND Home City: Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Minot

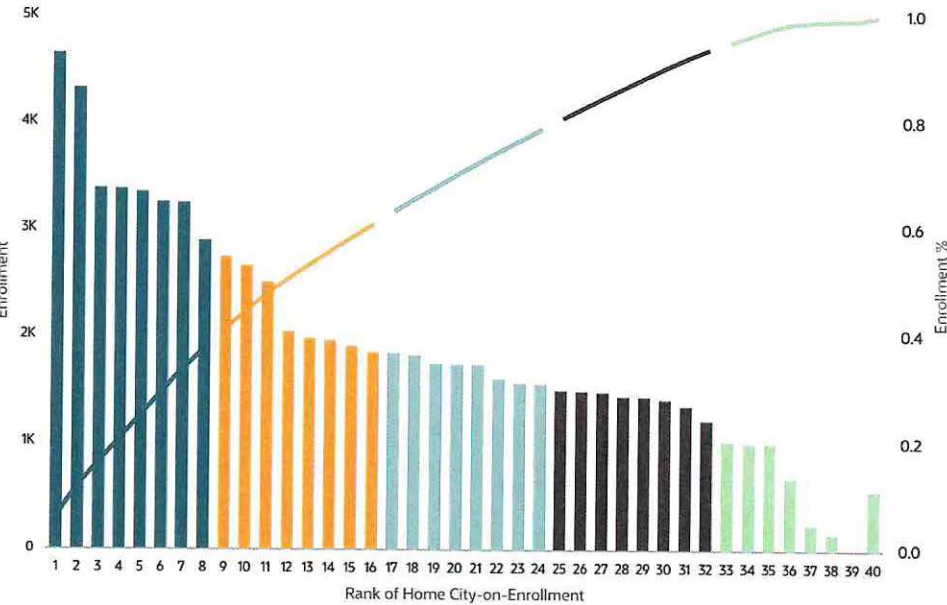


Clusters of Home City



Pareto of Home City

Total Enrollment 76K



# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations - Education and Environment Division Sakakawea Room, State Capitol

HB 1329  
4/10/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

9:58 a.m. Chairman Sorvaag called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Chairman Ronald Sorvaag, Senator Cole Conley, Senator Donald Schaible, Senator Paul J. Thomas, Senator Scott Meyer.

### Discussion Topics:

- Challenges Regarding Data Collection.
- Concerns Regarding Personal Information.
- Cost to Districts.

9:58 a.m. Senator Schaible discussed proposed amendment and submitted testimony in favor #44895.

10:02 a.m. Senator Schaible moved the proposed amendment LC# 25.1112.02004 to remove appropriations from the bill and to create a study.

10:02 a.m. Senator Thomas seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	N
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y

Motion Passed: 4-1-0.

10:10 a.m. Senator Schaible moved a Do Pass as amended.

10:10 a.m. Chairman Sorvaag seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y

Motion Passed: 5-0-0.

Senator Schaible will carry the bill

10:11 a.m. Chairman Sorvaag closed the meeting.

*Steven Hall, Committee Clerk*



25.1112.02004  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council  
staff for Senator Schaible  
April 9, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

### **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

*In place of the amendment (25.1112.02001) adopted by the Senate, House Bill No. 1329 is amended by amendment (25.1112.02004) as follows:*

- 1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a
- 2 government spending database; ~~and to provide an appropriation.~~

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

#### **4 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

5 **DATABASE.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying  
6 the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:

- 7 1. A review of the training services necessary for school board members,  
8 superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government  
9 spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial  
10 operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.
- 11 2. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information for  
12 each expenditure:
  - 13 a. The amount paid.
  - 14 b. The payment date.
  - 15 c. The recipient name.
  - 16 d. The paying entity.
  - 17 e. The employee position, if for a personnel payment.
  - 18 f. For a school district, with respect to educational materials:
    - 19 (1) A description of curriculum.
    - 20 (2) The publisher and author of a textbook.

- 1 (3) A description of software specifications and developer identification.
- 2 g. A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for state
- 3 and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes for school
- 4 districts and institutions of higher education.
- 5 3. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:
- 6 a. Search capabilities.
- 7 b. Data aggregation tools.
- 8 c. Download options in common formats.
- 9 d. Anonymous salary and benefit information.
- 10 e. Regular updates of all information.

11 The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any  
12 legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth legislative assembly.

13 ~~SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - CONSULTANTS FOR~~  
14 ~~INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY - ONE-TIME FUNDING.~~

15 ~~There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise~~  
16 ~~appropriated, the sum of \$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the~~  
17 ~~legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study~~  
18 ~~regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1,~~  
19 ~~2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time~~  
20 ~~funding item.~~

# 2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

HB 1329  
4/11/2025

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 54-44.4 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the duties of the superintendent of public instruction and the establishment of a government spending database; to provide an appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

8:40 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl opened the hearing.

Members Present: Chairman Bekkedahl, Vice-Chairman Erbele, and Senators Burckhard, Cleary, Conley, Davison, Dever, Dwyer, Magrum, Mathern, Meyer, Schaible, Sickler, Sorvaag, Thomas, Wanzek.

### Discussion Topics:

- Data Resources
- Study Cost
- Uniform Data for State Agencies

8:40 a.m. Senator Schaible introduced the bill and submitted testimony #44930.

8:46 a.m. Senator Schaible moved amendment LC 25.1112.02004.

8:46 a.m. Senator Sorvaag seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

8:51 a.m. Senator Schaible moved a Do Pass as Amended.

8:51 a.m. Senator Sorvaag seconded the motion.

<b>Senators</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Senator Brad Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Robert Erbele	Y
Senator Randy A. Burckhard	Y
Senator Sean Cleary	Y
Senator Cole Conley	Y
Senator Kyle Davison	Y
Senator Dick Dever	Y
Senator Michael Dwyer	Y
Senator Jeffery J. Magrum	Y
Senator Tim Mathern	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Donald Schaible	Y
Senator Jonathan Sickler	Y
Senator Ronald Sorvaag	Y
Senator Paul J. Thomas	Y
Senator Terry M. Wanzek	Y

Motion Passed 16-0-0.

Senator Schaible will carry the bill.

8:51 a.m. Corey Mock, ND Chief Information Officer, testified in favor and submitted testimony #44938.

9:00 a.m. Chairman Bekkedahl closed the hearing.

*Elizabeth Reiten, Committee Clerk*

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

VC 4/11/25  
1 of 2

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

*In place of the amendment (25.1112.02001) adopted by the Senate, Engrossed House Bill No. 1329 is amended by amendment (25.1112.02004) as follows:*

- 1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a  
2 government spending database; ~~and to provide an appropriation.~~

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

4 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**  
5 **DATABASE.**

6 1. During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the  
7 feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must  
8 include:

9 1 a. A review of the training services necessary for school board members,  
10 superintendents, principals, and business managers regarding the government  
11 spending database, including best practices, personnel management, financial  
12 operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.

13 2 b. The feasibility of establishing a database that compiles the following information  
14 for each expenditure:

15 a. (1) The amount paid.

16 b. (2) The payment date.

17 c. (3) The recipient name.

18 d. (4) The paying entity.

19 e. (5) The employee position, if for a personnel payment.

20 f. (6) For a school district, with respect to educational materials:



- 1 ~~(1)(a)~~ A description of curriculum.
- 2 ~~(2)(b)~~ The publisher and author of a textbook.
- 3 ~~(3)(c)~~ A description of software specifications and developer
- 4 identification.
- 5 ~~g.~~ (7) A standardized categorization using United States census bureau codes for
- 6 state and local transactions and nationally recognized standardized codes
- 7 for school districts and institutions of higher education.
- 8 ~~3.~~ c. The feasibility of establishing a database capable of providing:
- 9 ~~a.~~ (1) Search capabilities.
- 10 ~~b.~~ (2) Data aggregation tools.
- 11 ~~c.~~ (3) Download options in common formats.
- 12 ~~d.~~ (4) Anonymous salary and benefit information.
- 13 ~~e.~~ (5) Regular updates of all information.
- 14 2. The legislative management shall report its findings and recommendations, together
- 15 with any legislation necessary to implement the recommendations, to the seventieth
- 16 legislative assembly.

~~SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - CONSULTANTS FOR~~

~~INTERIM STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING DATABASE STUDY - ONE-TIME FUNDING.~~

~~There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$97,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the legislative council for the purpose of contracting with a consultant to assist in conducting a study regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time funding item.~~

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
ENGROSSED AND AMENDED HB 1329**

**Appropriations Committee (Sen. Bekkedahl, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.1112.02004](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1329, as amended, was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.

25.1112.02004  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council  
staff for Senator Schaible  
April 9, 2025

Sixty-ninth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

### **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1329**

Introduced by

Representatives O'Brien, Pyle, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senator Axtman

*In place of the amendment (25.1112.02001) adopted by the Senate, House Bill No. 1329 is amended by amendment (25.1112.02004) as follows:*

- 1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a legislative management study regarding the establishment of a
- 2 government spending database; ~~and to provide an appropriation.~~

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

#### **4 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY - GOVERNMENT SPENDING**

5 **DATABASE.** During the 2025-26 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying  
6 the feasibility of the establishment of a government spending database. The study must include:

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10 operations, facility planning, and regulatory compliance.
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18 ~~regarding the feasibility of a government spending database, for the biennium beginning July 1,~~  
19 ~~2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The funding provided in this section is considered a one-time~~  
20 ~~funding item.~~



HB 1329  
4-11-25  
mock

NORTH  
Dakota Be Legendary.

# NOTIONAL COST ESTIMATE

## K-12 GOVERNMENT SPEND DATABASE & SOLUTION

**Disclaimer:** This is not a quote from Guidehouse, but instead a requested operation, management, and development estimate.

**Prepared for:** North Dakota Information Technology

**Prepared by:** Guidehouse

**Guidehouse POC:** Rachel D'Hollander, [rachel.dhollander@guidehouse.com](mailto:rachel.dhollander@guidehouse.com)

**Month Prepared:** April 2025

# K-12 FINANCIAL REPORTING DATABASE AND COLLECTION

## SOLUTION DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

**Quote Overview**

The prepared quote on the right depicts the design and development cost to create the solution for collecting, centrally storing (statewide), and creating the analytic interfaces to review results.

**Included Costs in Estimate**

- Design and development of the solution (first release)

**Excluded Costs**

- Ongoing operations and maintenance
- Program administration by DPI
- Report preparation and submission by LEAs

See the supporting Excel model for greater line item detail and assumptions on the buildup around each task and highlights key assumptions that impact costing inputs. Changes to the complexity of data collection and consumption will have a converse impact on the estimates provided below.

\*rates are blended.

	Vendor Labor Costs	Contractor Rate*	NDIT Rate*	Contractor Hours	NDIT Hours	Cost
1	Requirements Gathering	\$239.20	\$115.00	420	320	\$ 137,264.00
2	Solution Architecture	\$239.20	\$115.00	80	120	\$ 32,936.00
3	Data Collection	\$239.20	\$115.00	4260	980	\$1,131,692.00
4	Data Engineering	\$239.20	\$115.00	940	640	\$ 298,448.00
5	Consumption Interface	\$239.20	\$115.00	430	120	\$ 116,656.00
Totals				6130	2180	\$ 1,716,996.00



# KEY ASSUMPTIONS

- 1 Required data exists or can be generated by individual school districts.  
*Strong assumption; issues with data access and collection will have a large impact on feasibility and cost*
- 2 No existing centralized data source that can be leveraged.
- 3 No currently existing data collection infrastructure.
- 4 Data will be provided by individual districts through flat files.
- 5 Individuals providing data will need an intuitive interface for submission.
- 6 Data collection layer may require development of custom interfaces and APIs.
- 7 Data consumption layer will be built using CoTS tools (e.g., Power BI) and will not involve development of custom web application.
- 8 Solution will leverage NDIT's Azure Platform (modern data platform).
- 9 Work may require data sharing agreements.
- 10 Work will be performed by a combination of contractors and North Dakota IT and business personnel.
- 11 Estimates for O&M costs will be considered separately.
- 12 DPI and SLDS (I/A) effort to manage the collection process, communicate with LEAs, update data sharing agreements will be excluded.

# DPI - K-12 Financial Reporting - Notional Estimate

Prepared for the North Dakota Department of Information Technology

Developed - April 2025

**Disclaimer: This is not a quote from Guidehouse, but instead a requested operation, management, and development estimate.**

This document provides greater line item detail and assumptions on the buildup around each task and highlights key assumptions that impact costing inputs. Changes to the complexity of data collection and consumption will have a converse impact on the estimates provided below. This estimate only covers design, development, and deployment. It does not cover operations and maintenance (O&M).

Guidehouse POC: Rachel D'Hollander (rdhollander@guidehouse.com)

## Development Cost Estimates - Vendor

#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	Cost Estimate
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Requirements Gathering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	420	320	\$ 137,264.00
2	Solution Architecture	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	80	120	\$ 32,936.00
3	Data Collection	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	4260	980	\$ 1,131,692.00
4	Data Engineering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	940	640	\$ 298,448.00
5	Consumption Interface	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	430	120	\$ 116,656.00
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
Total				6130	2180	\$ 1,716,996.00

## Key Assumptions

Required data exists or can be generated by individual school districts. (this is a strong assumption; issues

- with data access and collection will have a large impact on feasibility and cost)
- No existing centralized data source that can be leveraged.
- No currently existing data collection infrastructure.
- Data will be provided by individual districts through flat files.
- Individuals providing data will need an intuitive interface for submission.
- Data collection layer may require development of custom interfaces and APIs.
- Data consumption layer will be built using CoTS tools (e.g., Power BI) and will not involve development of custom web application.
- Solution will leverage NDI's Azure Platform (MDP).
- Work may require data sharing agreements.
- Work will be performed by a combination of contractors and North Dakota IT and business personnel.
- Estimates for O&M costs will be considered separately.
- DPI and SLDS (I/A) effort to manage the collection process, communicate with LEAs, update data sharing agreements will be excluded.



#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	Cost Estimate
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Consumption Interface Requirements Gathering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	120	100	\$ 40,204.00
2	Data Requirements Gathering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	100	60	\$ 30,820.00
3	Data Management Requirements Gathering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	40	40	\$ 14,168.00
4	Data Collection Requirements Gathering	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	160	120	\$ 52,072.00
5		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -

#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	Cost Estimate
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Solution Architecture Development	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	80	120	\$ 32,936.00
2		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
3		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
4		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
5		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -

#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	High Estimate - Cost
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Develop Standardized Templates	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	200	60	\$ 54,740.00
2	Implement Data Collection Process	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	3600	300	\$ 895,620.00
3	Training and Resource Development	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	260	80	\$ 71,392.00
4	User Acceptance Testing	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	80	240	\$ 46,736.00
5	Rollout	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	120	300	\$ 63,204.00
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -

#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	High Estimate - Cost
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Data Model Development	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	200	40	\$ 52,440.00
2	ETL Pipeline Development	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	500	240	\$ 147,200.00
3	Automation & Scheduling	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	240	360	\$ 98,808.00
4		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
5		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -



#	Type	Blended Contractor Rate	Blended ND Rate	Contractor Hours	ND Hours	High Estimate - Cost
Vendor Labor Costs						
1	Wireframing	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	80	20	\$ 21,436.00
2	Consumption Interface Development	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	320	10	\$ 77,694.00
3	Consumption Interface Operationalization	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	10	10	\$ 3,542.00
4	User Acceptance Testing	\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00	20	80	\$ 13,984.00
5		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
6		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
7		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
8		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
9		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -
10		\$ 239.20	\$ 115.00			\$ -