

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT  
with House Amendments**

**ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2068**

Introduced by

Senators Wardner, Robinson

Representatives Devlin, Haas, Metcalf

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-29 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, and in the alternative to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1 of the  
3 North Dakota Century Code, relating to the borrowing of money by school district technology  
4 consortia; to provide for a contingent expiration date; and to declare an emergency.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-29 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 created and enacted as follows:

8 **School district technology consortium - Authority to borrow money.**

9 1. A school district technology consortium formed under chapter 54-40.3 may borrow  
10 money for instructional technology acquisition provided:

11 a. The outstanding principal borrowed by a consortium under this section does  
12 not exceed one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars;

13 b. The loan repayment period does not exceed ten years;

14 c. The loan is approved in writing by the board of each school district  
15 participating in the consortium;

16 d. The loan is:

17 (1) Approved by one-third of the eligible electors residing in each school  
18 district participating in the consortium, as evidenced by their signatures  
19 on a petition clearly stating the purpose of the loan, the amount of the  
20 loan, and its terms of repayment, and filed with the superintendent of  
21 public instruction; or

22 (2) Approved by a majority of each participating school district's electors  
23 voting on the question at a regular school district election or at a special  
24 election called by the board; and

- 1 e. The loan is approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 2 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules setting forth the criteria  
3 for loan approval. The superintendent of public instruction may not approve a loan  
4 under this section if the superintendent determines that the instructional  
5 technology acquisition is not compatible with the statewide information technology  
6 plan.

7 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15.1-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8 created and enacted as follows:

9 **School district technology consortium - Authority to borrow money.**

- 10 1. A school district technology consortium formed under chapter 54-40.3 may borrow  
11 money for instructional technology acquisition provided:
- 12 a. The outstanding principal borrowed by a consortium under this section does  
13 not exceed one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars;
- 14 b. The loan repayment period does not exceed ten years;
- 15 c. The loan is approved in writing by the board of each school district  
16 participating in the consortium;
- 17 d. The loan is:
- 18 (1) Approved by one-third of the eligible electors residing in each school  
19 district participating in the consortium, as evidenced by their signatures  
20 on a petition clearly stating the purpose of the loan, the amount of the  
21 loan, and its terms of repayment, and filed with the superintendent of  
22 public instruction; or
- 23 (2) Approved by a majority of each participating school district's electors  
24 voting on the question at a regular school district election or at a special  
25 election called by the board; and
- 26 e. The loan is approved by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 27 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules setting forth the criteria  
28 for loan approval. The superintendent of public instruction may not approve a loan  
29 under this section if the superintendent determines that the instructional  
30 technology acquisition is not compatible with the statewide information technology  
31 plan.

1           **SECTION 3. CONTINGENT EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective  
2 through the date on which House Bill No. 1034 as approved by the fifty-sixth legislative  
3 assembly becomes effective, and after that date is ineffective.

4           **SECTION 4. EMERGENCY.** Section 1 of this Act is declared to be an emergency  
5 measure.