

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act relating to the adoption of state academic content standards and student
2 assessments for schools; and to amend and reenact section 15.1-06-06 of the North Dakota
3 Century Code, relating to the approval of schools.

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

5 **SECTION 1. State academic content standards - Development.** The superintendent
6 of public instruction shall develop and distribute to each school district and nonpublic school
7 state academic content standards for all core subject areas applicable to grades four, eight, and
8 twelve. The superintendent of public instruction shall revise the state academic content
9 standards required by this section at least once every five years and distribute the revised
10 standards to each school district and nonpublic school.

11 **SECTION 2. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content**
12 **standards - Adoption.**

- 13 1. Before the beginning of the 2002-03 school year, each school district and each
14 nonpublic school shall:
- 15 a. Adopt the state academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight,
16 and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts, science, and
17 social studies; or
- 18 b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades
19 four, eight, and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts,
20 science, and social studies, provided the alternate academic content
21 standards are determined by the superintendent of public instruction to be
22 equal to or more rigorous than the state standards.
- 23 2. Before the beginning of the 2003-04 school year, each school district and each
24 nonpublic school shall:

- a. Adopt the state academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology; or
- b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology, provided the alternate academic content standards are determined by the superintendent of public instruction to be equal to or more rigorous than the state standards.

SECTION 3. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content standards - Local curriculum.

1. Beginning with the 2002-03 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of mathematics and English language arts.
2. Beginning with the 2003-04 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of science and social studies.
3. Beginning with the 2004-05 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic content standards in the areas of health, the arts, physical education, world languages, and technology.

SECTION 4. State student assessments - Development. Before the beginning of the 2002-03 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall develop and make available student assessments that are:

1. Valid and reliable measures of student performance in terms of applicable state academic content standards;
2. Applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve in the areas of mathematics and English language arts; and

- 1 3. Designed to measure student knowledge and assist in determining whether
2 schools are meeting the academic expectations set forth in the school's continuous
3 improvement plan.

4 **SECTION 5. State student assessments - Alternate student assessments -**

5 **Accreditation.** Beginning with the 2002-03 school year, the superintendent of public
6 instruction shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop an
7 assessment plan to show evidence of student performance against the state academic content
8 standards or against the alternate academic content standards adopted by the district or
9 nonpublic school. A school district or nonpublic school may either use the student assessments
10 developed by the superintendent of public instruction or adopt or develop alternate student
11 assessments.

12 **SECTION 6. Student assessments - Publication of results.**

- 13 1. The superintendent of public instruction shall collect and disaggregate reports on
14 student performance evidenced by the state student assessments and any
15 alternate student assessments adopted or developed for use by a school district or
16 a nonpublic school.
- 17 2. Each school district or nonpublic school shall publish the results of its student
18 assessments in a manner that references reliable measures of student
19 performance in terms of state content standards or alternate content standards.

20 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-06 of the 1999 Supplement to the North
21 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **15.1-06-06. Approval of public and nonpublic schools.** Each public and nonpublic
23 school in this state offering elementary or secondary education to students must be approved
24 by the superintendent of public instruction. Except as otherwise provided by law, the
25 superintendent may not approve a school unless:

- 26 1. Each classroom teacher ~~holds a valid teaching certificate issued~~ employed at the
27 school is licensed or approved to teach by the education standards and practices
28 board;
- 29 2. The students are offered all subjects required by law; ~~and~~
- 30 3. The school is in compliance with all local and state health, fire, and safety laws; ~~i~~

- 1 4. The school is in compliance with the academic content requirements provided in
- 2 sections 1, 2, and 3 of this Act; and
- 3 5. The school is in compliance with the student assessment requirements provided in
- 4 section 5 of this Act.