

**SENATE BILL NO. 2452**

Introduced by

Senators Freborg, Cook, G. Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 15-36-11, 15-36-11.1, 15-36-11.2, and  
2 15-36-11.3 of the North Dakota Century Code or in the alternative to amend and reenact  
3 sections 15.1-13-17, 15.1-13-20, and 15.1-13-21 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to  
4 teacher licensure.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** If House Bill No. 1045 does not become effective, section  
7 15-36-11 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and  
8 reenacted as follows:

9 **15-36-11. License required.** ~~Except as provided by section 15-36-11.1, an An~~  
10 individual must ~~hold a valid North Dakota professional teaching license~~ be licensed to teach by  
11 the education standards and practices board or approved to teach by the education standards  
12 and practices board in order to be permitted or employed to teach in any public school in this  
13 state.

14 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** If House Bill No. 1045 does not become effective, section  
15 15-36-11.1 of the 1999 Supplement to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and  
16 reenacted as follows:

17 **15-36-11.1. ~~Exception to certificate requirement~~ Approval to teach - Rules.**

- 18 1. ~~An~~ The board shall approve an individual without a valid certificate who is teaching  
19 ~~under contract with a school may teach and be employed to teach if approved by~~  
20 ~~the~~ to teach if the individual is licensed to teach in Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska,  
21 South Dakota, or Wyoming and if no complaint is pending against the individual  
22 with the teacher licensing entity of the state in which the individual is licensed.
- 23 2. ~~The education standards and practices board.~~ ~~The education standards and~~  
24 ~~practices board shall establish by rule the terms and conditions of approval. The~~

1 ~~terms and conditions may include payment of fines to the board, enrollment in and~~  
2 ~~completion of continuing education courses, and a deadline for filing a completed~~  
3 ~~application. Approval to teach and be employed to teach without a valid North~~  
4 ~~Dakota certificate may only be granted~~ may approve an individual to teach if the  
5 individual has previously held a ~~valid~~ North Dakota certificate, ~~currently or license,~~  
6 holds a ~~valid~~ teaching certificate or license ~~in another jurisdiction~~ issued by any  
7 state other than those listed in subsection 1, or has filed a completed application  
8 for licensure with the board. The board shall adopt rules establishing the terms  
9 and conditions under which an individual may be approved to teach under this  
10 subsection. The terms and conditions may include the payment of a fine to the  
11 board, enrollment in and completion of continuing education courses, and  
12 submission of a completed application for licensure by a date certain.

13 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-36-11.2 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
14 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **15-36-11.2. Interim reciprocal teaching ~~certificate~~ license - Period of validity.**

- 16 1. The education standards and practices board shall grant an interim reciprocal  
17 teaching ~~certificate~~ license in accordance with sections 15-47-46 and 15-41-25 to  
18 an individual who holds a ~~valid regular~~ teaching license or certificate from ~~another~~  
19 a state other than Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, or Wyoming,  
20 provided:
- 21 a. The individual's licensure or certification is based upon a minimum of a  
22 bachelor's degree with a major that meets the issuing state's requirements in  
23 elementary education, middle-level education, or a content area taught ~~in~~ at a  
24 public high school;
  - 25 b. The individual's licensure or certification requires the completion of a  
26 professional education sequence from a state-approved teacher education  
27 program, including supervised student teaching;
  - 28 c. The individual submits to a background check as required of initial applicants  
29 ~~in~~ by section 15-38-18.2;
  - 30 d. The background check reveals nothing for which a North Dakota applicant  
31 would be denied initial ~~certification~~ licensure; and

- 1 e. The individual submits a plan for meeting all requirements necessary to  
2 become a ~~certificated~~ licensed teacher in this state.
- 3 2. An interim reciprocal ~~certificate~~ license granted under this section is valid for two  
4 years.
- 5 3. The individual shall submit evidence of progress on the ~~individual's educational~~  
6 plan required by subsection 1 to the education standards and practices board at  
7 ~~the end of the two-year period. The~~ before renewal of the interim reciprocal  
8 license.
- 9 4. The board may renew the interim reciprocal ~~certificate may be renewed~~ license for  
10 one additional two-year period if the board finds the individual has demonstrated  
11 satisfactory progress ~~is demonstrated.~~
- 12 ~~3.~~ 5. Notwithstanding any other law, an interim reciprocal ~~certificate~~ license granted  
13 under this section is the equivalent of a teaching ~~certificate~~ license granted under  
14 chapter 15-36.

15 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-36-11.3 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
16 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **15-36-11.3. Reciprocal acceptance of teaching certificates ~~Report~~ or licenses.**

18 On or before July 1, 2001, the education standards and practices board shall pursue the  
19 reciprocal acceptance of teaching certificates or licenses issued by ~~other states.~~ ~~The~~  
20 ~~education standards and practices board shall present a progress report regarding~~  
21 ~~implementation of the program to the legislative council or to a committee designated by the~~  
22 ~~council before October 1, 2000~~ other than Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, or  
23 Wyoming.

24 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-17 of the North Dakota Century Code as  
25 created by House Bill No. 1045, as approved by the fifty-seventh legislative assembly, is  
26 amended and reenacted as follows:

27 **15.1-13-17. Teaching license - Requirements - Exceptions.**

- 28 1. An individual may not engage in the profession of teaching unless:  
29 a. The individual holds a teaching license issued by the board; or  
30 b. The individual is approved to teach by the board.

- 1           2.   The board shall approve an individual to teach if the individual is licensed to teach  
2                   in Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, or Wyoming and if no complaint  
3                   is pending against the individual with the teacher licensing entity of the state in  
4                   which the individual is licensed.
- 5           3.   An individual may be approved to teach by the board ~~only~~ if the individual has  
6                   previously held a North Dakota teaching certificate or license, holds a teaching  
7                   certificate or license issued by ~~another~~ any state other than those listed in  
8                   subsection 2, or has filed a completed application for licensure with the board.
- 9           ~~3.~~   The board shall adopt rules establishing the terms and conditions under which an  
10                   individual may be approved to teach, ~~as provided for in this section~~ under this  
11                   subsection. The terms and conditions may include the payment of a fine to the  
12                   board, enrollment in and completion of continuing education courses, and  
13                   submission of a completed application for licensure by a date certain.

14           **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-20 of the North Dakota Century Code as  
15   created by House Bill No. 1045, as approved by the fifty-seventh legislative assembly, is  
16   amended and reenacted as follows:

17           **15.1-13-20. Interim reciprocal teaching license - Period of validity.**

- 18           1.   The board shall grant an interim reciprocal teaching license in accordance with  
19                   sections 15.1-18-02 and 15.1-18-03 to an individual who holds a regular teaching  
20                   license or certificate from ~~another~~ a state other than Minnesota, Montana,  
21                   Nebraska, South Dakota, or Wyoming, provided:
- 22                   a.   The individual's licensure or certification is based upon a minimum of a  
23                   bachelor's degree with a major that meets the issuing state's requirements in  
24                   elementary education, middle-level education, or a content area taught at a  
25                   public high school;
- 26                   b.   The individual's licensure or certification is based upon the completion of a  
27                   professional education sequence from a state-approved teacher education  
28                   program and includes supervised student teaching;
- 29                   c.   The individual submits to a background check as required of initial applicants  
30                   by this chapter;

- 1           d. The background check reveals nothing for which a North Dakota applicant  
2           would be denied initial licensure; and
- 3           e. The individual submits a plan for meeting all requirements necessary to  
4           become a licensed teacher in this state.
- 5           2. An interim reciprocal license granted under this section is valid for two years.
- 6           3. The individual shall submit evidence of progress on the plan required by  
7           subsection 1 to the board ~~prior to~~ before renewal of the interim reciprocal license.
- 8           4. The board may renew the interim reciprocal license for one additional two-year  
9           period if the board finds that the individual has demonstrated satisfactory progress.
- 10          5. Notwithstanding any other law, an interim reciprocal license granted under this  
11          section is the equivalent of a teaching license granted under this chapter.

12           **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-21 of the North Dakota Century Code as  
13 created by House Bill No. 1045, as approved by the fifty-seventh legislative assembly, is  
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15           **15.1-13-21. Reciprocal acceptance of teaching licenses or certificates.** The board  
16 shall pursue the reciprocal acceptance of teaching licenses or certificates issued by ~~other~~  
17 states other than Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, or Wyoming.