

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1437**

Introduced by

Representatives Dosch, Carlisle, Grande, Meier

Senator Stenehjem

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-19-03 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to a period of silence in schools.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-19-03 of the 1999 Supplement to the North  
5 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-19-03. Period of silence.** A The board of a school district shall allow a classroom  
7 teacher ~~may require that the students~~ to observe a period of silence for meditation, reflection,  
8 or prayer for up to one minute at the beginning of each schoolday. A school board may require  
9 that students observe a period of silence for up to one minute at the beginning of each  
10 schoolday authorize the voluntary recitation of the Lord's prayer and the pledge of allegiance.  
11 The board shall inform students that these exercises are not meant to influence an individual's  
12 religious beliefs. The exercises must be conducted in a manner that allows students to learn  
13 about this country's freedoms, including the freedom of religion.