

SENATE BILL NO. 2149

Introduced by

Education Committee

(At the request of the Superintendent of Public Instruction)

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for curricula aligned to content standards in all schools; to amend
2 and reenact section 15.1-06-06 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the approval of
3 schools; and to repeal sections 15-38-07, 15-38-08, 15-38-09, 15-38-10, 15-38-11, and
4 15-38-12 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to required school curricula.

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

6 **SECTION 1. Required academic content standards in all schools.** To be approved
7 by the superintendent of public instruction, each public and nonpublic school shall adopt or
8 develop curricula aligned to the state academic content standards for all core subject areas
9 applicable to grades four, eight, and twelve. The superintendent of public instruction shall
10 ensure that students receive education in the core subject areas of:

- 11 1. English language arts, including reading, writing, speaking, and listening.
- 12 2. Mathematics.
- 13 3. Social studies, including the Constitution of the United States and United States
14 history, geography, and government.
- 15 4. Science, including agriculture.
- 16 5. Physical education.
- 17 6. Health, including physiology, hygiene, disease control, and the nature and effects
18 of alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics.

19 **SECTION 2. State academic content standards - Development.** The superintendent
20 of public instruction shall develop and distribute to each school district and nonpublic school
21 state academic content standards for all core subject areas applicable to grades four, eight, and
22 twelve. The superintendent of public instruction shall revise the state academic content
23 standards required by this section at least once every five years and distribute the revised
24 standards to each school district and nonpublic school.

1 **SECTION 3. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content**
2 **standards - Adoption.**

3 1. Before the beginning of the 2001-02 school year, each school district and each
4 nonpublic school shall:

5 a. Adopt the state academic content standards applicable to grades four, eight,
6 and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts, science, and
7 social studies; or

8 b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades
9 four, eight, and twelve in the areas of mathematics, English language arts,
10 science, and social studies, provided the alternate academic content
11 standards are determined by the superintendent of public instruction to be
12 equal to or more rigorous than the state standards.

13 2. 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 health and physical education; or

17 b. Adopt or develop alternate academic content standards applicable to grades
18 four, eight, and twelve in the areas of health and physical education, provided
19 the alternate academic content standards are determined by the
20 superintendent of public instruction to be equal to or more rigorous than the
21 state standards.

22 **SECTION 4. State academic content standards - Alternate academic content**
23 **standards - Local curriculum.**

24 1. Beginning with the 2002-03 school year, the superintendent of public instruction
25 shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop
26 curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic
27 content standards in the areas of mathematics and English language arts.

28 2. Beginning with the 2003-04 school year, the superintendent of public instruction
29 shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop
30 curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic
31 content standards in the areas of science and social studies.

- 1 3. Beginning with the 2004-05 school year, the superintendent of public instruction
2 shall require that each school district and nonpublic school shall adopt or develop
3 curricula for grades four, eight, and twelve which are aligned to the academic
4 content standards in the areas of health and physical education.

5 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-06 of the 1999 Supplement to the North
6 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-06-06. Approval of public and nonpublic schools.** Each public and nonpublic
8 school in this state offering elementary or secondary education to students must be approved
9 by the superintendent of public instruction. Except as otherwise provided by law, the
10 superintendent may not approve a school unless:

- 11 1. Each classroom teacher holds a valid teaching certificate issued by the education
12 standards and practices board;
- 13 2. ~~The students are offered all subjects required by law; and~~
- 14 ~~3. The school is in compliance with all local and state health, fire, and safety laws;~~
- 15 3. The school is in compliance with the academic content requirements provided in
16 sections 1 through 4 of this Act; and
- 17 4. The school is in compliance with section 15.1-06-04 regarding school calendar
18 length.

19 **SECTION 6. REPEAL.** Sections 15-38-07, 15-38-08, 15-38-09, 15-38-10, 15-38-11,
20 and 15-38-12 of the North Dakota Century Code are repealed.