

**Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 6, 2009**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1435  
(Representatives Schatz, Grande, Mueller)  
(Senators Dever, Dotzenrod, G. Lee)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to inclusion of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution in the high school social studies curriculum.

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

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-21-02.2. High school coursework requirements.**

1. ~~Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, no~~ A student may not graduate from a high school in this state unless the student demonstrates successful completion of the following:
  - a. Four units of English language arts;
  - b. Two units of mathematics;
  - c. Two units of science;
  - d. ~~Three units of social studies, which may include one-half unit of North Dakota studies and one-half unit of multicultural studies~~ including:
    - (1) One unit of United States history;
    - (2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of economics, with a requirement that each student read the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights; or
      - (b) One unit of problems of democracy, with a requirement that each student read the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights; and
    - (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
  - e. One unit of physical education, which may include up to one-half unit of health; and
  - f. One unit of a foreign or native American language, fine arts, or career and technical education.
2. The superintendent of public instruction shall work with each school district to identify course offerings that meet the requirements of subdivisions a through f of subsection 1.
3. Before September first of each year, each school district shall file a copy of its graduation requirements with the superintendent of public instruction.
4. A school district may not reduce its graduation requirements below those in existence on June 30, 2007.

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Speaker of the House

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President of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1435.

House Vote:      Yeas    88      Nays    2      Absent    4

Senate Vote:    Yeas    44      Nays    0      Absent    3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State