

Sixty-third
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1356

Introduced by

Representatives Haak, Hawken, N. Johnson, Hogan

Senators Poolman, Triplett

1 A BILL ~~for an Act directing the superintendent of public instruction to study early childhood care~~
2 ~~and education~~ for an Act to provide an appropriation for early childhood education grants; and to
3 provide for a transfer.

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

5 ~~—SECTION 1. EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION—~~
6 ~~STUDY BY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -- REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE~~
7 ~~MANAGEMENT.~~

8 ~~—1.—The superintendent of public instruction shall study the development, delivery, and~~
9 ~~administration of comprehensive early childhood care and early childhood education in~~
10 ~~this state. The study must include an examination of the availability, quality, and cost of~~
11 ~~services offered by existing public and private sector providers, the projected need for~~
12 ~~services during the coming ten to twenty years, and the ability of public and private-~~
13 ~~sector providers to address the expansion of facilities or the creation of additional~~
14 ~~facilities.~~

15 ~~—2.—The superintendent of public instruction may appoint a committee, work groups, task~~
16 ~~forces, and subcommittees, as necessary, to provide or obtain information required in~~
17 ~~conjunction with this study.~~

18 ~~—3.—Before June 1, 2014, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide a final~~
19 ~~report, together with recommendations, to the legislative management.~~

20 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the early
21 childhood education fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of
22 \$2,600,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the superintendent of public
23 instruction for the purpose of providing annual early childhood education grants to eligible
24 school districts, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.

- 1 1. Any school district offering a program of early childhood education, approved in
2 accordance with section 15.1-37-01, is eligible to receive a grant under this section.
- 3 2. The superintendent of public instruction shall provide for an annual application process
4 and shall select award recipients. The selection process must take into account the
5 geographic distribution of recipients, the district's service area, the general economic
6 circumstances within the service area, and the district's current or anticipated financial
7 commitment to providing early childhood education.
- 8 3. A school district may not receive more than \$100,000 annually under this section.
- 9 4. As a condition of receiving an early childhood education grant, a school district shall
10 commit to maintaining a full-time equivalent student-teacher ratio of ten-to-one or
11 sixteen-to-one if the teacher is assisted by a full-time classroom aide.
- 12 5. As a condition of receiving an early childhood education grant, a school district shall
13 commit to utilizing the PowerSchool information system and to providing data to the
14 superintendent of public instruction at the time and in the manner requested by the
15 superintendent.
- 16 6. The superintendent of public instruction shall monitor the grant recipients, compile
17 data regarding the recipients' provision of early childhood education, and report any
18 findings and recommendations to the legislative management.

19 **SECTION 2. TRANSFER.** Notwithstanding section 15.1-27-22.1, if any moneys remain in
20 the grants - state school aid line item after the superintendent of public instruction complies with
21 all statutory payment obligations imposed for the 2011-13 biennium, the superintendent shall
22 transfer the first \$2,600,000 to the early childhood education fund in the state treasury. Moneys
23 in the early childhood education fund are not subject to section 54-44.1-11.