

HOUSE BILL NO. 1429

Introduced by

Representatives Heilman, Hawken, D. Johnson, N. Johnson, J. Nelson

Senators Berry, J. Lee, Murphy, Nelson, Poolman, Sorvaag

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-09-58 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to early childhood education; ~~and to provide an appropriation for early childhood~~
3 ~~education grants.~~

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-09-58 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-09-58. Prekindergarten program Early childhood education - Authorization -**
8 **Support.**

9 The board of a school district may establish a ~~prekindergarten~~ early childhood education
10 program and, provided the program is approved by the superintendent of public instruction in
11 accordance with chapter 15.1-37, may receive and expend any statesupport that program with:

- 12 1. Local tax revenues, other than those necessary to support the district's kindergarten
13 program and the provision of elementary and high school educational services;
- 14 2. State moneys specifically appropriated for the program, ~~any federal;~~
- 15 3. Federal funds specifically appropriated or approved for the program, ~~and any gifts; and~~
- 16 4. Gifts, grants, and donations specifically given for the program.

17 ~~**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general~~
18 ~~fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$5,000,000, or so much of the~~
19 ~~sum as may be necessary, to the superintendent of public instruction for the purpose of~~
20 ~~providing annual early childhood education grants to eligible school districts, for the biennium~~
21 ~~beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2015.~~

22 ~~1. Any school district offering a program of early childhood education, approved in~~
23 ~~accordance with section 15.1-37-01, is eligible to receive a grant under this section.~~

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