

Introduced by

Senators Heckaman, K. Roers

Representatives Buffalo, Devlin, Vigesaa

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to mental health awareness and suicide prevention instruction for students in grades
3 seven through twelve.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-24 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-21-24. Health and wellness curriculum - Content.**

8 Beginning July 1, 2012, each school district and nonpublic school shall ensure ~~that the~~:

- 9 1. The portion of its health curriculum which is related to sexual health includes
10 instruction pertaining to the risks associated with adolescent sexual activity and the
11 social, psychological, and physical health gains to be realized by abstaining from
12 sexual activity before and outside of marriage; and
13 2. The district or nonpublic school's health curriculum for all students in grades seven
14 through twelve includes instruction in mental health awareness and suicide prevention,
15 including instruction and information on identifying warning signs and risk factors,
16 identifying at-risk peers, and the availability of resources. To satisfy the requirements
17 of this subsection, a district or nonpublic school may collaborate with other districts
18 and nonpublic schools to share resources and provide the instruction through distance
19 or virtual learning.