

2021 HOUSE EDUCATION

HB 1111

2021 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1111
1/12/2021

An act for LM study of competency-based learning initiatives implemented in school districts under innovative education programs

9:00 AM **Chairman Owens** called the meeting to order. **Roll Call:** Reps. Owen, Schreiber-Beck, Heinert, D. Johnson, M. Johnson, Longmuir, Marschall, Pyle, Richter, Simons, Zubke, Guggisberg, Hager present. Rep Hoverson was absent.

Discussion Topics:

- Study to share information between school districts

9:02 **Rep. Heinert** introduced HB 1111.

Oral Testimony in favor of HB 1111.

9:06 **Aimee Copas**-Executive Director of NDCEL. Oral testimony

9:10 **Alexis Baxley** ND School Boards Association

9:11 **Ann Ellefson**, NDDPI, #553 in favor. Hearing closed

Rep. Schreiber-Beck moved a do pass. **Rep Marschall** seconded.

Roll call vote. 13 yes 0 No 1 absent

Representatives	Vote
Representative Mark S. Owens	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Ron Guggisberg	Y
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	A
Representative Dennis Johnson	Y
Representative Mary Johnson	Y
Representative Donald Longmuir	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	Y
Representative Brandy Pyle	Y
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Luke Simons	Y
Representative Denton Zubke	Y

Bill carrier is Rep. Heinert

Written testimony:

Carrie O'Rourke, Regional Director, yes.every kid. #544

9:15 AM Adjourned

Beverly Monroe, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1111: Education Committee (Rep. Owens, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1111 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY ON HB 1111
House Education Committee
January 12, 2021
by Ann Ellefson, Director of Academic Support
(701) 328-2488
Department of Public Instruction

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

My name is Ann Ellefson, Director of the Office of Academic Support of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI). I am here today representing NDDPI to provide supportive testimony for HB 1111, which provides for a legislative management study of innovative education practices and competency-based learning initiatives occurring throughout North Dakota.

During the 2017 legislative assembly, statute was established providing the state superintendent the authority to waive particular sections of the North Dakota Century Code when supported by a comprehensive, systemic plan from participating districts. These comprehensive plans required multi-year approaches and documented support from teachers, school staff, parents, and community members. This flexibility was so much more than a “waiver” from something; it was about deliberately planning, and systemically implementing a strategic plan for better delivery of education with better outcomes for North Dakota students. The flexibility

provided under this statute allows schools and districts to design and pursue alternate strategies and pathways to best meet the needs of their students.

The 66th Legislative Assembly adopted and embraced the ND's first ever, PK-12 Education Strategic Vision: All students will graduate Choice Ready with the knowledge, skills and disposition to be successful. HB 1111 is directly aligned with the Strategic Vision's Theme of supporting "Quality Student-Centered Instruction."

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, NDDPI stands ready to assist the Legislature with this study.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions.



yes. every kid. Board of Directors:

Meredith Olson, *Stand Together*

Derrell Bradford, *50CAN*

Robert Enlow, *EdChoice*

Derek Johnson, *Stand Together*

Jorge Lima, *Americans for Prosperity*

January 12, 2021

Chairman Owens and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Carrie O'Rourke and I represent **yes. every kid.** We work to help ensure every student has access to an individualized education. And today, I am here to speak in support of **HB 1111 –Innovation Waiver Study** sponsored by Representative Pat Heinert.

We applaud the efforts this body has taken to propel North Dakota forward by empowering school leaders with the flexibility to implement innovative programs and learning models. These new models ensure a personalized approach to learning, which exposes students to a wide variety of experiences and educational methods. This approach, *the North Dakota approach*, is at the heart of an education that has the potential to transform a student's life – allowing all students to realize their full potential.

Additional legislation will be forthcoming this session that will complement these efforts by allowing the certification of a student's competency of a skill or subject, aligned to a learning continuum. This is often referred to as competency-based or mastery education. Assessing student competencies is another innovative way to ensure the cross-curricular skills and knowledge that every graduate needs to be successful in the 21st century. Tapping into that unique combination of qualities is the secret to unlocking the extraordinary potential that exists within all of us.

The legislative management study proposed in this legislation coupled with the recognition of competency scoring aligned to the learning continuum will guarantee that all students have access to innovative learning models and ensure students the opportunity to discover, develop, and apply their innate gifts to maximize their ability to contribute to society.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I appreciate the opportunity to address the committee, and most of all, I want to close by again applauding you, this body, and this state for serving as a national leader in the future of education. You have put the needs of students first and reimagined what is possible. I look forward to working with you on this and future legislation that equips all students of all ages at all stages of life with the resources and guidance they need to forge their own path of discovery and development.



Carrie O'Rourke
Regional Director
c: 850-510-5399
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2021 SENATE EDUCATION

HB 1111

2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1111
2/16/2021

An Act to provide for a legislative management study of competency-based learning initiatives implemented in school districts under innovative education programs.
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Chair Schaible opened the hearing at 9:30 AM

Discussion Topics:

- K-12 council
- “Shall” study
- Systems level work

Senator	Attendance
Chairman Schaible	P
Senator Elkin	P
Senator Conley	P
Senator Lemm	P
Senator Oban	P
Senator Wobbema	P

Rep Heinert, Dist 32 – introduced the bill

Ann Ellefson – ND Dept of Public Instruction – testified in support #6694

Dr. Aimee Copas – NDCEL – testified in support

Additional written testimony:

Carrie O’Rourke – support #6610

Katherine Terras – support #6598

Adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Lynn Wolf, Committee Clerk

TESTIMONY ON HB 1111
Senate Education Committee
February 16, 2021
by Ann Ellefson, Director of Academic Support
(701) 328-2488
Department of Public Instruction

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

My name is Ann Ellefson, Director of the Office of Academic Support of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI). I am here today representing NDDPI to provide supportive testimony for HB 1111, which provides for a legislative management study of innovative education practices and competency-based learning initiatives occurring throughout North Dakota.

During the 2017 legislative assembly, statute was established providing the state superintendent the authority to waive particular sections of the North Dakota Century Code when supported by a comprehensive, systemic plan from participating districts. I have enclosed a full list of districts operating under the Innovative Education Program flexibility as well as those who have submitted formal inquiries (Attachment A). These comprehensive plans required multi-year approaches and documented support from teachers, school staff, parents, and community members. This flexibility was so much more than a “waiver” from something; it was about deliberately planning, and systemically implementing a strategic plan for better

delivery of education with better outcomes for North Dakota students. The flexibility provided under this statute allows schools and districts to design and pursue alternate strategies and pathways to best meet the needs of their students.

The 66th Legislative Assembly adopted and embraced the ND's first ever, PK-12 Education Strategic Vision: All students will graduate Choice Ready with the knowledge, skills and disposition to be successful. HB 1111 is directly aligned with the Strategic Vision's Theme of supporting "Quality Student-Centered Instruction."

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, NDDPI stands ready to assist the Legislature with this study.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Attachment A

List of schools requesting Innovative Education Program

School	Date Submitted	Short Description	Response on Planning Proposal (PP)	Response on Implementation Plan (IP)	NDCC Waived
Bismarck – Career Academy	October 7, 2019	CBE in CTE	Approved October 2019	Approved April 2020	15.1-21 HS Grad 15.1-18 TQ 15.1-20 HS Time
Center for Distance Education	August 21, 2018	CBE in virtual classes	Approved September 2018	Approved December 2018	15.1-20 HS Time
Northern Cass	May 2017	Career <u>Exploration</u> (Jaguar Academy) PCBL w/ KW	Approved August 2017 Working with KnowledgeWorks	Approved July 2017	15.1-20 Instructional Calendar Time 15.1-18 TQ
Northern Cass	Spring 2018	PCBL	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	15.1-20 HS Time
Northern Cass	Spring 2019	1x a month shortened high school day, 5.5 hrs instead of 6 hrs		Approved April 2019	15.1-20 Time
Northern Cass	February 2020	State Scholarship		Approved March 2020	15.1-21 Scholarship
Oakes	Spring 2018	PCBL	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	15.1-20 HS Time
West Fargo	Spring 2018	PCBL	Approved-PCBL w/KW	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	N/A
West Fargo	Spring 2019	Hybrid Courses at Sheyenne HS		Approved April 2019	15.1-20 Time
New Rockford-Sheyenne	Spring 2018	PCBL	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	N/A
New Rockford-Sheyenne	Spring 2019	Flex-Mod Schedule			15.1-20 HS Time
YCC	Summer 2018	PCBL	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	Approved-PCBL w/ KW	15.1-20 HS Time
YCC	Spring 2019	4-day School Week		Approved April 2019	N/A

IP – Implementation Plan
PP – Planning Proposal
HS – High School

CBE – Competency-Based Education
PCBL – Personalized Competency-Based Learning
KW – KnowledgeWorks

February 16, 2021

Senator Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Carrie O'Rourke and I represent **yes. every kid.** We work to help ensure every student has access to an individualized education. And today, I write in support of **HB 1111 –Innovation Waiver Study**, sponsored by Representative Pat Heinert.

We applaud the efforts this body has taken to propel North Dakota forward by empowering school leaders with the flexibility to implement innovative programs and learning models. These new models ensure a personalized approach to learning, which exposes students to a wide variety of experiences and educational methods. This approach, *the North Dakota* approach, is at the heart of an education that can transform a student's life – allowing all students to realize their full potential.

Assessing student competencies is another innovative way to ensure the cross-curricular skills and knowledge that every graduate needs to be successful in the 21st century. Tapping into that unique combination of qualities is the secret to unlocking the extraordinary potential that exists within all of us.

The legislative management study proposed in this legislation coupled with the recognition of competency scoring aligned to the learning continuum will guarantee that all students have access to innovative learning models and ensure students the opportunity to discover, develop, and apply their innate gifts to maximize their ability to contribute to society.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I appreciate the opportunity to address the committee, and most of all, I want to close by again applauding you, this body, and this state for serving as a national leader in the future of education. You have put the needs of students first and reimagined what is possible. I look forward to working with you on this and future legislation that equips all students of all ages at all stages of life with the resources and guidance they need to forge their own path of discovery and development.



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Certification Central

ND's 1st Alternative Educator Preparation Program

Box 322, McVille, ND 58254

701.322.4429

www.certificationcentral.education



#6598

Written Testimony in Support of HB 1111

Chairman Schaible and Senate Education Committee,

For the record, my name is Dr. Katherine Terras and I am the co-founder of Certification Central, which is ND's 1st Alternative Educator Preparation Program. Certification Central is a state-approved postsecondary program that trains teachers for licensure. Our program is entirely competency-based in order for students to acquire skills to a level of proficiency to make them career ready. We are in support of HB 1111 as a formal process for investigating the impact of competency-based learning initiatives. While this particular study is focused on schools and districts, a follow-up study on the effects of competency-based, postsecondary initiatives might provide a holistic analysis on the effects this evidence-based practice is having in North Dakota.

2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

HB 1111
2/17/2021
9:49 AM

An Act to provide for a legislative management study of competency-based learning initiatives implemented in school districts under innovative education programs.

9:49 AM

Discussion Topics:

- Committee Work

Sen Oban moved to Do Pass

Sen Conley seconded

Roll Call Vote: 6-0-0

Motion passes

Sen Conley will carry the bill

9:51 PM

Lynn Wolf, Committee Clerk

Senator	Attendance
Chairman Schaible	P
Senator Elkin	P
Senator Conley	P
Senator Lemm	P
Senator Oban	P
Senator Wobbema	P

Senator	Vote
Chairman Schaible	Y
Senator Elkin	Y
Senator Conley	Y
Senator Lemm	Y
Senator Oban	Y
Senator Wobbema	Y

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1111: Education Committee (Sen. Schaible, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1111 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.