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**TESTIMONY ON REPEAL OF CHAPTER 67-19-01**

**Accreditation: Procedures, Standards, and Criteria**

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULES COMMITTEE**

**September 15, 2015**

**By: Bob Marthaller, Assistant Superintendent**

**701-328-2267**

**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction**

Chairman Devlin and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bob Marthaller and I am an assistant superintendent with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI). I am here to provide background information regarding the recommended repeal of Administrative Rule Chapter 67-19-01 Accreditation: Procedures, Standards, and Criteria.

During the Sixty-second North Dakota Legislative session, HB 1029 amended North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 15.1-06-06. These amendments require school districts, in order to obtain approval certification, to submit to the NDDPI a compliance report verifying that teachers meet licensure requirements, that curriculum requirements are met as in NDCC 15.1-21, that the school has been inspected by the state fire marshal, that the district conducts background checks on all employees having unsupervised contact with children, and that all schools participate in a review process designed to increase student achievement through a continuous cycle of improvement. During this same session, also in HB 1029, NDCC 15.1-27-08 and NDCC 15.1-27-09 pertaining to unaccredited schools were repealed.

The NDDPI, based on authority provided in NDCC 15.1-02-11, has established that all schools seeking accreditation will do so through the AdvancEd regional accreditation process and that all schools will participate in a school improvement cycle of improvement. This determination was made based on the recommendation of stakeholders and approved by the state superintendent.

The adoption of the AdvancEd model of accreditation has rendered current accreditation rules obsolete and, therefore, the NDDPI recommends that Administrative Rule Chapter 67-19-01 be repealed with the exception of 67-19-01 - Classification by school grade description and authority.

Chairman Devlin and Members of the Committee that concludes my testimony and I will stand for any questions that you may have.