

HOUSE BILL NO. 1270

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, Aarsvold, Herbel, R. Kelsch

Senators Flakoll, Hacker

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-06-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to professional development days for teachers.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-06-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-06-04. School calendar - Length.**

7 1. During each school year, a school district shall provide for a school calendar of at
8 least one hundred eighty days, apportioned as follows:

- 9 a. One hundred seventy-three full days of instruction;
- 10 b. Three holidays listed in subdivisions b through j of subsection 1 of section
11 15.1-06-02 and selected by the school board in consultation with district
12 teachers;
- 13 c. Up to two full days during which parent-teacher conferences are held or which
14 are deemed by the school board to be compensatory time for parent-teacher
15 conferences held outside regular school hours; and
- 16 d. Two full days, or the hourly equivalent of two full days, for professional
17 development activities that are approved by an institution of higher education.

18 2. a. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development
19 activities under subsection 1, a school district may require that its teachers
20 attend the North Dakota education association instructional conference and
21 may pay teachers for attending the conference, provided attendance is
22 verified.

23 b. In meeting the requirements for two days of professional development
24 activities under subsection 1, a school district may consider attendance at the

- 1 North Dakota education association instructional conference to be optional,
2 elect not to pay teachers for attending the instructional conference, and
3 instead direct any resulting savings toward providing alternate professional
4 development opportunities.
- 5 3. A school district may not require the attendance of teachers in school or at any
6 school-sponsored, school-directed, school-sanctioned, or school-related activities
7 and may not schedule classroom instruction time nor alternate professional
8 development activities on any day that conflicts with the North Dakota education
9 association instructional conference.
- 10 4. A full day of instruction consists of:
- 11 a. At least five and one-half hours for elementary students, during which time the
12 students are required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving
13 curricular instruction; and
- 14 b. At least six hours for high school students, during which time the students are
15 required to be in attendance for the purpose of receiving curricular instruction.
- 16 5. If a school's calendar provides for an extension of each schoolday beyond the
17 statutorily required minimum number of hours, and if the extensions when
18 aggregated over an entire school year amount to more than eighty-four hours of
19 additional classroom instruction during the school year, the school is exempt from
20 having to make up six hours of instruction time lost as a result of weather-related
21 closure. In order to make up lost classroom instruction time beyond the six hours,
22 the school must extend its normal school calendar day by at least thirty minutes.
- 23 6. A school that does not qualify under the provisions of subsection 3 must extend its
24 normal schoolday by at least thirty minutes to make up classroom instruction time
25 lost as a result of weather-related closure.
- 26 7. If because of weather a school must dismiss before completing a full day of
27 instruction, the school is responsible for making up only those hours and portions
28 of an hour between the time of early dismissal and the conclusion of a full day of
29 classroom instruction.