

Sixty-fifth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2250

Introduced by

Senators Poolman, Campbell, Heckaman

Representatives Schreiber-Beck, Delmore

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact ~~section~~sections 15.1-37-05, 15.1-37-06, and 15.1-37-08  
2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to early childhood education programs, providers,  
3 grants, and data collection.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-37-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-37-05. Early childhood education providers - Coalition - Eligibility.**

- 8 1. The superintendent of a school district shall invite all public and private providers of  
9 early childhood education services within the district to meet, in order to:
  - 10 a. Initiate the identification of all available options for cost-effectively maximizing the  
11 provision of early childhood education services within the district;
  - 12 b. Address the coordinated utilization of facilities, personnel, and transportation, for  
13 the provision of early childhood education services within the district; and
  - 14 c. (1) Form a coalition of early childhood education service providers; and  
15 (2) Provide for the selection of a coalition governing board.
- 16 2. The board of the school district in which the coalition of service providers is located  
17 shall provide advice and guidance to the coalition in all matters pertaining to this  
18 section through section 15.1-37-08.
- 19 3. Any early childhood service provider who agrees to participate in the coalition or on its  
20 governing board may submit an application to the ~~department~~superintendent of  
21 ~~commerce~~public instruction for a grant under this section, provided the governing  
22 board certifies to the ~~department that~~superintendent the provider:
  - 23 a. Is a participating member in the coalition or on the governing board.
  - 24 b. Operates an early childhood education program that:

- 1 (1) Is approved in accordance with section 15.1-37-01; and
- 2 (2) Incorporates within its curriculum at least ten hours of research-based
- 3 parental involvement.
- 4 c. Has documented the provider's willingness to admit children of all learning
- 5 abilities into the early childhood education program.

6 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-37-06 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-37-06. Receipt and distribution of grants - Notification.**

- 9 1. a. The ~~department~~superintendent of ~~commerce~~public instruction shall receive  
10 applications for and distribute grants under this section to eligible members,  
11 including governing board members, of a consortium formed in accordance with  
12 section 15.1-37-05, in the amount of two thousand dollars for each child enrolled  
13 in a program of early childhood education, if the child is eligible for free lunches  
14 under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act [42 U.S.C. 1751, et  
15 seq.], and one thousand dollars for each child enrolled in a program of early  
16 childhood education, if the child is eligible for reduced lunches under the Richard  
17 B. Russell National School Lunch Act [42 U.S.C. 1751, et seq.], provided:
  - 18 a. (1) The child is a resident of this state; ~~and~~
  - 19 b. (2) The child has reached four years of age before August first in the year of  
20 enrollment; and
  - 21 (3) The program has a duration of at least four hundred hours over a period of  
22 at least thirty-two consecutive weeks.
- 23 b. A child enrolled in a federally funded head start program may not be counted for  
24 the purpose of determining grant eligibility under this section.
- 25 2. a. Once each calendar quarter, at the time and in the manner required by the  
26 ~~department~~superintendent of ~~commerce~~public instruction, any provider receiving  
27 a grant under this section shall forward to the parent of each child receiving  
28 services a notice indicating the total amount of the grant that was awarded to the  
29 provider for the quarter, the pro rata amount attributable to the parent's child, and  
30 the source of the grant. The ~~department~~superintendent of ~~commerce~~public  
31 instruction shall standardize the notification required by this subdivision.

- 1           b. If a provider fails to meet the notification requirements of this subsection, the  
2           ~~department~~superintendent of ~~commerce~~public instruction shall reduce the  
3           amount of the provider's next grant payment by fifty percent. If a provider fails to  
4           meet the notification requirements of this section a second time, the  
5           ~~department~~superintendent of ~~commerce~~public instruction shall determine that the  
6           provider is ineligible to participate in the grant program for a period of one year.

7           **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-37-08 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
8           amended and reenacted as follows:

9           **15.1-37-08. Data collection - Requirements.**

10          The superintendent of public instruction, ~~with the advice and consent of the department of~~  
11          ~~commerce~~, shall implement a uniform system for the accounting, budgeting, and reporting of  
12          data by any early childhood education provider to whom or to which grants are distributed in  
13          accordance with section 15.1-37-06. Grants may be withheld or forfeited, in whole or in part, if  
14          information required in accordance with this section is not submitted at the time or in the  
15          manner requested by the superintendent.