

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Becker, Jones, Paulson, Paur, Schauer

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to initial teaching licenses for individuals completing alternative teacher certification  
3 program.

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

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15.1-13-10. Criteria for teacher licensure.**

- 8 1. The board shall establish by rule the criteria for teacher licensure and the process for  
9 issuing teaching licenses. The criteria must include considerations of character,  
10 adequate educational preparation, and general fitness to teach.
- 11 2. The board may not require a teacher who graduated from an accredited teacher  
12 education program on or before September 1, 1980, to earn any college credits in  
13 native American or other multicultural courses as a condition of licensure or license  
14 renewal.
- 15 3. This section does not affect the validity of teaching certificates in effect on July 31,  
16 2001.
- 17 4. This section does not affect the qualifications for career and technical education  
18 certificates, as otherwise established by law.
- 19 5. The board shall grant an initial license to an individual who:
- 20 a. Possesses a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution;
- 21 b. Passes a criminal history record check required by section 15.1-13-14; and
- 22 c. Successfully completes an alternative teacher certification program operated by a  
23 nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
24 Code [26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)], which:

- 1           (1) Operates in at least five states;
- 2           (2) Has operated an alternative teacher certification program for at least ten
- 3                 years; and
- 4           (3) Requires applicants to pass a subject area and pedagogy examination,
- 5                 known as the professional teaching knowledge examination, to receive
- 6                 certification.
- 7         6. An individual who obtains an initial license under subsection 5 is authorized to teach
- 8             the subject and educational levels for which the individual has successfully completed
- 9             the program described under subsection 5.
- 10        7. Upon completing two years of teaching under an initial license issued under
- 11           subsection 5, the licensee is eligible to apply for a five-year renewal license if the
- 12           individual:
  - 13           a. Completes the program's clinical experience program and the North Dakota
  - 14                 teacher support system approved mentor program;
  - 15           b. Meets the requirements of section 15.1-13-35 within two years of initial licensure;
  - 16                 and
  - 17           c. Meets the requirements of human resources and cultural directives required
  - 18                 coursework within two years of initial licensure which includes Native American
  - 19                 studies, cultural diversity, strategies for creating learning environments that
  - 20                 contribute to positive human relationships, and strategies for teaching and
  - 21                 assessing diverse learners.
- 22        8. An individual who obtains an initial or renewal license is authorized to teach in the
- 23           subject areas of:
  - 24           a. Elementary education;
  - 25           b. English language arts;
  - 26           c. United States and world history;
  - 27           d. Mathematics;
  - 28           e. General science;
  - 29           f. Biology;
  - 30           g. Chemistry; and
  - 31           h. Physics.