A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 15.1-01-03 and section 15.1-21-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the establishment of a North Dakota competency framework and to instructional time requirements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 15.1-01-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. The state board of public school education shall:
   a. Assist county committees in carrying out their duties.
   b. Provide county committees with clerical assistance, plans of procedure, standards, data, maps, forms, and other materials, information, and services.
   c. Appoint members to the county committee, if the county superintendent does not fulfill this duty, as provided for in section 15.1-10-01.
   d. Provide oversight for regional education associations as required by chapter 15.1-09.1.
   e. Establish and certify a North Dakota competency framework to allow students who have demonstrated content mastery of units required under sections 15.1-21-01 and 15.1-21-02 to waive unit instructional time requirements under section 15.1-21-03.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-21-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-21-03. High school unit - Instructional time.

1. Except as provided in subsection 2, each unit must consist of at least one hundred twenty hours of student engagement per school calendar.
2. The following units must consist of at least one hundred fifty hours of student engagement per school calendar: natural sciences, agriculture, business and office technology, marketing, diversified occupations, trade and industrial education, technology education, and health careers.

3. The hour requirements of this section are subject to reductions resulting from the holidays and nonstudent contact days provided for in section 15.1-06-04.

4. This section does not apply to schools or school districts having block schedules approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

5. This section does not apply to units aligned to the North Dakota competency framework under section 15.1-01-03.