

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1478

(Representatives Schreiber-Beck, Heinert, D. Johnson, M. Johnson, Longmuir, Zubke)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to alternative education opportunities outside the classroom for course credit; and to provide for a legislative management report.

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

**SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**School districts - Policy - Alternative curriculum outside the classroom - Participation - Report to legislative management.**

1. For purposes of this section:
  - a. "Educational opportunity" means instruction outside the classroom which meets course content standards, as determined by the superintendent of public instruction. The term includes work-based learning, pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships, internships, industry certifications, and community programs.
  - b. "Sponsoring entity" means a business, for-profit organization, nonprofit organization, trade association, parent of a student, teacher, or administrator that partners with a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school to provide educational opportunities for students.
2. The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules to administer this section.
3. The board of a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school may adopt a policy to allow students enrolled in grades six through twelve to earn course credit through educational opportunities with a sponsoring entity.
4. A policy adopted under this section must provide criteria for:
  - a. The submission, approval, and evaluation of proposals for educational opportunities by sponsoring entities for which a student may earn course credit;
  - b. Sponsoring entity eligibility; and
  - c. Educational opportunity accountability.
5. The board of a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school may accept a proposal from any eligible sponsoring entity. To be approved, a proposal must:
  - a. Provide increased educational opportunities for students;
  - b. Improve the academic success of students; and
  - c. Identify a teacher of record who is employed by the school district or nonpublic school, is licensed under chapter 15.1-18, and has approved the proposal.
6. Upon approval by the board of a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school, the proposal must be submitted to the kindergarten through grade twelve education coordination council for review and to the superintendent of public instruction for approval before

implementation. The superintendent of public instruction shall approve or deny a proposal under this section within ninety days of submission.

7. If a proposal is denied under subsection 6, the superintendent shall provide the board of a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school with a written explanation, including the reasons for denial.
8. If a proposal is approved by the superintendent of public instruction, the board of a school district or governing board of a nonpublic school shall implement the proposal and allow students to participate in the educational opportunity for course credit.
9. Any school district or nonpublic school participating in the program shall provide evaluation data to the superintendent of public instruction at the time and in the manner requested by the superintendent of public instruction.
10. The superintendent of public instruction may revoke proposal approval if the superintendent of public instruction determines the school district, nonpublic school, or sponsoring entity failed to comply with the agreed upon terms of the educational opportunity proposal or the school district policy, or failed to meet the requirements of this section.
11. If approval of a proposal is revoked under subsection 10, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide a report to the legislative management regarding the revocation.
12. The superintendent of public instruction shall provide information on the superintendent of public instruction's website and in biennial reports to the legislative management regarding proposals under this section.

  
Speaker of the House

  
President of the Senate

  
Chief Clerk of the House

  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1478.

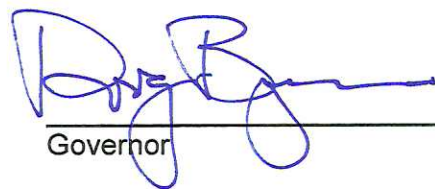
House Vote:      Yeas 89              Nays 5              Absent 0

Senate Vote:    Yeas 47              Nays 0              Absent 0

  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 3:15 P.M. on April 16, 2021.

Approved at 8:05 P.M. on April 19, 2021.

  
Governor

Filed in this office this 20th day of April, 2021,  
at 9:44 o'clock A. M.

  
Secretary of State