

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1217**

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, D. Johnson, Owens, Sanford, Schatz

Senators Davison, Poolman, Rust

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-13-23 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to school guidance and counseling services.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-13-23 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-13-23. School guidance and counseling services - Providers.**

7 1. Notwithstanding any other law, if an individual possesses a bachelor's degree from an  
8 accredited institution in the field of counseling and is enrolled in courses to obtain a  
9 graduate degree in counseling from a state-approved school counseling program, the  
10 board shall issue a provisional two-year license to the individual to provide guidance  
11 and counseling services at the elementary and secondary school level. The licensee  
12 must obtain a graduate degree in counseling from a state-approved school counseling  
13 program within two years of the date the provisional license was issued to be eligible  
14 for license renewal.

15 2. Guidance and counseling services at the elementary and secondary school level may  
16 be provided by a person holding a graduate degree in counseling from a  
17 state-approved school counseling program, with coursework and an internship in  
18 school counseling, as required for all counselors by the superintendent of public  
19 instruction, provided the person has a North Dakota teaching license or will obtain one  
20 within seven years from the date of first employment under this section.

21 3. The board shall conduct a criminal history record check in accordance with section  
22 12-60-24 on each person hired under this section. All costs associated with a  
23 background check are the responsibility of the person being hired.

- 1       4. The board shall monitor a person hired under subsection 1 to ensure the individual  
2       completes at least one-half of the total credits required for the individual to obtain a  
3       graduate degree in counseling from a state-approved school counseling program  
4       within the first calendar year after the date the provisional license is issued.
- 5       5. The board shall monitor a person hired under ~~this section~~subsection 2 to ensure that  
6       the person annually completes at least one-seventh of the total credits required for  
7       ~~that~~the person to obtain a teaching license, as determined at the time of employment  
8       under this section.