

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1414**

Introduced by

Representatives Karls, Bosch, Paulson, Satrom

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-15-04 of the North Dakota Century Code,  
2 relating to the amount of time for a teacher to accept or reject a contract.

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

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-15-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **15.1-15-04. Contracts - Renewals - Notice.**

- 7 1. a. If the board of a school district elects not to renew the contract of a teacher, a  
8 principal, or an assistant or associate superintendent for the ensuing school year,  
9 the board shall provide written notification of the decision to the individual.
- 10 b. The board may not notify the individual under this section earlier than March first  
11 nor later than May first of the school year in which the individual has been  
12 employed.
- 13 c. The failure of a board to provide written notice under this subsection constitutes  
14 an offer to renew the individual's contract for the ensuing school year, under the  
15 same terms and conditions as the individual's current contract.
- 16 2. a. No earlier than March first nor later than May first, the board of a school district  
17 shall provide to each individual offered a contract renewal notification of the date  
18 by which the individual must accept or reject the contract.
- 19 b. At least ~~fourteen~~thirty calendar days must pass between the notification required  
20 by this subsection, and the date by which the individual must accept or reject the  
21 contract.
- 22 3. a. In order to accept an offer to renew a contract, including an offer generated by  
23 the failure of a board to provide written notice as required by subsection 1, an  
24 individual shall provide written notification of acceptance to the board on or

- 1                   before the date required by the board or May fifteenth, whichever is earlier. An  
2                   individual accepting an offer to renew a contract is entitled to a written contract  
3                   for the ensuing school year.
- 4            b.    In order to reject an offer to renew a contract, including an offer generated by the  
5                   failure of a board to provide written notice as required by subsection 1, an  
6                   individual shall provide written notification of rejection to the board on or before  
7                   the date required by the board or May fifteenth, whichever is earlier.
- 8            c.    If an individual fails to provide notification of acceptance or rejection of an offer to  
9                   renew a contract, the board is relieved of any continuing contract provisions.
- 10        4.    a.   If negotiations are being carried on pursuant to chapter 15.1-16, the provisions of  
11                   this section requiring the board of a school district to give an individual notice and  
12                   requiring that the individual respond to the notice are suspended until the  
13                   negotiations are completed.
- 14            b.    If negotiations do not begin as required by subsection 5 of section 15.1-16-13,  
15                   the board of a school district may provide notification to each individual offered a  
16                   contract renewal.