

Kirsten Baesler
State Superintendent



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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August 11, 2017

Dear Administrator,

House Bill (HB) 1389 took effect August 1, 2017. This bill creates a new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC.) NDCC 15.1-21-08.1. states, **“A student's parent may direct the school district in which the student is enrolled not to administer to the student any state test or state assessment required in accordance with section 15.1-21-08.”**

This code further details, which assessments are, and are not exempt, as well as the process for completing a parental directive. The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction is to provide a form to districts to use in obtaining a parent directive to withhold administration of a student assessment. Attached is the standard form that will be used throughout the state by all school districts. This form must be posted to your district's website prior to the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

Parents will need to complete an individual form for each student and each assessment from which they wish to be exempt, as well as the school year in which they are requesting exemption. The form is to be completed each year by the parent in order for the student to be exempt in the current school year. School districts are required to retain the form in the student's file and to compile information for a yearly report, regarding how many directives were received, demographic characteristic breakdowns of students whose parents have requested exemptions, and any loss of funding as a result of parent directives. For additional information, please reference the attached Parental Directive Guidance.

For a link to HB 1389 and NDCC 15.1-21, please visit: <http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/65-2017/documents/17-0879-06000.pdf> and <http://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t15-1c21.pdf>

If you have questions regarding this form or the administration of it, please contact [Rob Bauer](#), Director, Office of Assessment, at (701) 328-2224.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Bauer".

Rob Bauer, Director
Office of Assessment

Enclosures: Parent Directive Guidance and Parent Directive Form