

MAR 13 2001

Laid Over Under Rule 25

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

2 BY WISE, PETERSEN, WINCKLER, and MASCHER

3 A Concurrent Resolution requesting the formation of
4 a committee by the Legislative Council to conduct a
5 comprehensive study of the creation and
6 implementation of regional academies as an
7 alternative governing and taxing structure for school
8 districts.

9 WHEREAS, the consolidation of resources in a
10 centralized educational facility by two or more school
11 districts will promote greater flexibility and achieve
12 economies of scale; and

13 WHEREAS, increased access is needed to advanced-
14 level courses, vocational-technical programs, and
15 innovative approaches to learning by many smaller and
16 rural school districts in the state; and

17 WHEREAS, the development of regional academies
18 would expand the educational opportunities of the
19 school children of the state of Iowa; NOW THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
21 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislative Council is
22 requested to establish an interim committee to conduct
23 a comprehensive study of the creation and
24 implementation of regional academies as an alternative
25 governing and taxing structure for school districts.
26 The committee shall examine the feasibility of
27 creating and implementing a regional academy system,
28 with the objective of utilizing economies of scale to
29 enhance the educational opportunities of students in
30 grades seven through twelve residing within designated

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1 regions.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall
3 consider the merits of a two-phase approach beginning
4 with a study of the ramifications of a regional
5 academy structure on school districts progressing to
6 implementation of the regional academy structures and
7 shall evaluate potential school district financial
8 incentives for regional academy formation, including
9 supplementary weighting during the study phase and
10 after implementation, and taxpayer incentives in the
11 form of a reduced foundation property tax levy.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall
13 assess the applicability of current provisions
14 governing the reorganization or dissolution of school
15 districts to the formation of a regional academy, and
16 shall make recommendations regarding boundary
17 determination, curriculum content including advanced-
18 level and vocational-technical courses, taxing
19 authority, and adaptation of the school finance
20 formula to the new regional structure.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall be
22 composed of ten members, representing both political
23 parties and both houses of the general assembly. The
24 committee shall be staffed by the legislative service
25 bureau and the legislative fiscal bureau, with the
26 assistance of representatives from the departments of
27 education, management, and revenue and finance. The
28 committee shall complete its deliberations during the
29 2001 legislative interim, and shall submit a report of
30 its findings and recommendations to the general

1 assembly by January 14, 2002.

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