

FEB 13 2002

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2329

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Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act expanding the student achievement and teacher quality
2 program by including school nurses in the program and adding
3 school nurses, counselors, and media specialists to the
4 beginning teacher mentoring and induction component of the
5 program.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2329

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 50, Code Supplement
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 50. Develop core knowledge and skill criteria models,
4 based upon the Iowa teaching standards, for the evaluation,
5 the advancement, and for teacher career development purposes
6 pursuant to chapter 284. The model criteria shall further
7 define the characteristics of quality teaching as established
8 by the Iowa teaching standards. The director shall consult
9 with school administrators, teachers, school board members,
10 and professional organizations representing the majority of
11 school nurses, counselors, and media specialists when
12 developing evaluation, advancement, and career development
13 models for school nurses, counselors, and media specialists.

14 Sec. 2. Section 284.2, subsections 1, 2, and 10, Code
15 Supplement 2001, are amended to read as follows:

16 1. "Beginning teacher" means an individual serving under
17 an initial provisional license, issued by the board of
18 educational examiners under chapter 272, who is assuming a
19 position as a classroom teacher. For purposes of the
20 beginning teacher mentoring and induction program created
21 pursuant to section 284.5, "beginning teacher" also includes
22 school nurses, media specialists, and counselors employed by a
23 school district or area education agency.

24 2. "Classroom teacher" means an individual who holds a
25 valid practitioner's license and who is employed under a
26 ~~teaching contract with-a-school-district-or-area-education~~
27 ~~agency-in-this-state~~ issued by a board of directors under
28 section 279.13 to provide classroom instruction to students,
29 or as a school nurse, media specialist, or a counselor.

30 10. "Teacher" means an individual holding a practitioner's
31 license issued under chapter 272, who is employed as a
32 teacher, librarian, media specialist, school nurse, or
33 counselor in a nonadministrative position by a school district
34 or area education agency pursuant to a contract issued by a
35 board of directors under section 279.13. A teacher may be

1 employed in both an administrative and a nonadministrative
2 position by a board of directors and shall be considered a
3 part-time teacher for the portion of time that the teacher is
4 employed in a nonadministrative position. "Teacher" includes
5 a licensed individual employed on a less than full-time basis
6 by a school district through a contract between the school
7 district and an institution of higher education with a
8 practitioner preparation program in which the licensed teacher
9 is enrolled.

10 EXPLANATION

11 This bill adds school nurse to the definition of "teacher",
12 and school nurse, media specialist, and counselor to the
13 definitions of "beginning teacher" and "classroom teacher".
14 for purposes of the student achievement and teacher quality
15 program.

16 The program's primary components include statewide
17 beginning teacher mentoring and induction programs, career
18 paths with compensation levels that strengthen the state's
19 ability to recruit and retain teachers, and professional
20 development designed to support best teaching practices.

21 Including media specialists and counselors in the
22 definitions of "beginning teacher" and "classroom teacher"
23 means they will be required to participate in the mentoring
24 and induction program, and schools and area education agencies
25 are eligible to receive state assistance for their
26 participation.

27 Media specialists and counselors are currently included in
28 the program's definition of teacher, which means that these
29 individuals are required under the student achievement and
30 teacher quality program to meet statewide standards, develop
31 an individual career development plan, and to be
32 comprehensively evaluated.

33 By including school nurses in the definition of "teacher",
34 if a school district employing a school nurse fully
35 participates in the student achievement and teacher quality

1 program, the school nurse will also be required to meet the
2 statewide teaching standards and develop an individual career
3 development plan based upon the Iowa teaching standards and
4 the needs of the school nurse, students, attendance center,
5 and the school district. The program also requires that a
6 school nurse be comprehensively evaluated prior to advancing
7 to the next career level.

8 The bill also requires the director of the department of
9 education to consult with school administrators, teachers,
10 school board members, and professional organizations
11 representing the majority of school nurses, counselors, and
12 media specialists when developing student achievement and
13 teacher quality program evaluation, advancement, and career
14 development models for school nurses, counselors, and media
15 specialists.

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