

FEB 25 2002

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2520
BY SUKUP

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to reading programs, reading assessments,
2 professional development relating to reading instruction, and
3 to on-site visits by an accreditation team or committee if a
4 school district or school fails to meet local student
5 achievement levels in reading.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b, Code
2 Supplement 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. A set of core academic indicators in mathematics and
4 reading in grades four, eight, and eleven, a set of core
5 academic indicators in science in grades eight and eleven, and
6 another set of core indicators that includes, but is not
7 limited to, graduation rate, postsecondary education, and
8 successful employment in Iowa. School districts and schools
9 shall conduct multiple reading assessments throughout the
10 school year and shall implement research-based instructional
11 strategies based upon the assessment data. If a school
12 district or school fails to meet its local student achievement
13 levels in reading for two consecutive years, the department
14 shall conduct a comprehensive site visit as soon as possible
15 in accordance with section 256.11, subsection 10. Annually,
16 the department shall report state data for each indicator in
17 the condition of education report.

18 Sec. 2. Section 256.9, Code Supplement 2001, is amended by
19 adding the following new subsections:

20 NEW SUBSECTION. 51. Develop, in collaboration with the
21 area education agencies, and using federal assessment funds
22 whenever possible, models for measuring student achievement
23 levels in reading using multiple assessments. The models
24 shall be made available to school districts and accredited
25 nonpublic schools upon request.

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 52. Allocate any federal assistance
27 provided to the department for purposes of teacher training
28 and recruiting to accredited elementary and secondary schools
29 for purposes of professional development relating to reading
30 instruction. The department shall compile and make available
31 a list of public and private providers of professional
32 development relating to reading instruction that use research-
33 based instructional strategies, provide for instructional
34 improvement, and utilize evaluation components in accordance
35 with section 284.6, subsection 1, paragraphs "b" through "d".

1 Schools receiving assistance in accordance with this
2 subsection may use the assistance to procure professional
3 development for reading instruction from providers appearing
4 on the list compiled by the department.

5 Sec. 3. Section 256.11, subsection 10, Code Supplement
6 2001, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

7 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. The deficiencies discovered during a
8 comprehensive site visit conducted pursuant to section 256.7,
9 subsection 21, paragraph "b", due to failure of the school
10 district or school to meet its local student achievement
11 levels in reading have not been resolved during the time
12 specified by the accreditation team. The accreditation
13 committee appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall establish
14 a reading remediation plan for the school district or school
15 prescribing the procedures that must be taken to correct
16 deficiencies in meeting the local student achievement
17 standards in reading and shall establish a deadline date for
18 correction of the deficiencies.

19 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
20 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
21 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
22 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
23 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
24 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
25 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
26 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be
27 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
28 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill contains a number of provisions relating to
31 professional development for reading instruction, multiple
32 assessments to measure student achievement in reading, and use
33 of federal assessment assistance for professional development
34 relating to reading instruction, and requires the state board
35 of education to adopt rules causing the department of

1 education to conduct on-site accreditation visits at school
2 districts and schools that do not meet local student
3 achievement levels in reading.

4 The director of the department of education is directed to
5 develop, in collaboration with the area education agencies,
6 and using federal assessment funds whenever possible, models
7 for measuring student achievement levels in reading using
8 multiple assessments. The models must be made available to
9 schools upon request. The director also must allocate any
10 federal assistance provided to the department for purposes of
11 teacher training and recruiting to accredited elementary and
12 secondary schools for purposes of professional development
13 relating to reading instruction. The department shall compile
14 and make available a list of public and private professional
15 development program providers.

16 The bill requires schools to conduct multiple reading
17 assessments throughout the school year and implement research-
18 based instructional strategies based upon the assessment data.

19 If a school district or school fails to meet its local
20 student achievement levels in reading for two consecutive
21 years, the department must conduct a comprehensive site visit.
22 If the deficiencies discovered during the site visit are not
23 resolved during the time specified, an accreditation committee
24 is appointed to establish a reading remediation plan and a
25 deadline date for correction of the deficiencies.

26 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
27 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any
28 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
29 district from state school foundation aid received by the
30 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
31 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state
32 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.
33 The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate
34 the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any
35 state mandates included in the bill.