

FILED MAR 13 2002

SENATE FILE 2314  
BY HORN

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the establishment of an Iowa center of  
2 excellence in autism.

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

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SF 2314  
HUMAN RESOURCES

1 Section 1. Section 8D.2, subsection 4, Code Supplement  
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 4. "Private agency" means an accredited nonpublic school,  
4 a nonprofit institution of higher education eligible for  
5 tuition grants, or a hospital licensed pursuant to chapter  
6 135B or a physician clinic to the extent provided in section  
7 8D.13, subsection 16, or the Iowa center of excellence in  
8 autism designated pursuant to section 135.29A.

9 Sec. 2. Section 8D.13, Code Supplement 2001, is amended by  
10 adding the following new subsection:

11 NEW SUBSECTION. 20. Access to the network shall be  
12 offered to the Iowa center of excellence in autism designated  
13 pursuant to section 135.29A. The center shall be responsible  
14 for all costs associated with becoming part of the network.

15 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 135.29A IOWA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
16 IN AUTISM.

17 The director shall designate an Iowa center of excellence  
18 in autism, to serve as a central point of coordination in the  
19 state for information sharing and patient services, and to  
20 provide any other services or functions necessary to meet the  
21 needs of individuals with autism and their families. The  
22 center designated shall be a facility that is operating in  
23 Iowa on or before July 1, 2002, to provide autism-related  
24 information and services, that is operated under the direction  
25 of autism ambassadors, and which maintains the Iowa autism  
26 registry. The center shall coordinate efforts with any autism  
27 unit established pursuant to section 225C.13 and with the  
28 regional autism assistance program established pursuant to  
29 section 256.35.

30 EXPLANATION

31 This bill directs the director of public health to  
32 designate an Iowa center of excellence in autism, to serve as  
33 a central point of coordination in the state for information  
34 sharing and patient services, and to provide any other  
35 services or functions necessary to meet the needs of

1 individuals with autism and their families. The center  
2 designated is to be a facility that is operating in Iowa on or  
3 before July 1, 2002, to provide autism-related information and  
4 services, that is operated under the direction of autism  
5 ambassadors, and which maintains the Iowa autism registry.  
6 The bill directs the center to coordinate efforts with any  
7 autism unit established by the administrator of the division  
8 of mental health and developmental disabilities pursuant to  
9 Code section 225C.13 and with the regional autism assistance  
10 program established by the department of education pursuant to  
11 Code section 256.35. The bill also authorizes access to the  
12 Iowa communications network to the Iowa center of excellence  
13 in autism and provides that as a private user, the center is  
14 responsible for all costs associated with becoming part of the  
15 network.

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