

JAN 3 1 2006
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2199
BY WENDT

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for an increase in the number of elementary and
2 secondary school instructional days, and making an
3 appropriation.

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

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HF 2199

1 Section 1. Section 257.8, Code Supplement 2005, is amended
2 by adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. ALTERNATE ALLOWABLE GROWTH --
4 ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS.

5 a. Notwithstanding the calculation in subsection 2, the
6 department of management shall calculate the regular program
7 allowable growth for a budget year during the period beginning
8 July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2012, by increasing the
9 allowable growth for the budget year, for purposes of
10 determining the regular program state cost per pupil as
11 calculated in subsection 2, by the amount appropriated for the
12 base year in section 279.10, subsection 5, as additional
13 instructional day funding. For purposes of determining the
14 amount of a budget adjustment as defined in section 257.14,
15 the amounts added to allowable growth pursuant to this
16 paragraph shall be subtracted from the school district's
17 regular program cost per pupil for a budget year during the
18 period beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2012, prior
19 to determining the amount of the adjustment.

20 b. A school district shall calculate allowable growth
21 pursuant to the provisions of subsection 2 for the budget year
22 beginning July 1, 2007, and succeeding budget years, utilizing
23 a regular program state cost per pupil figure which
24 incorporates the increases in regular program allowable growth
25 calculated for each budget year pursuant to paragraph "a".

26 Sec. 2. Section 279.10, subsection 1, Code 2005, is
27 amended to read as follows:

28 1. a. The school year shall begin on the first day of
29 July and each regularly established elementary and secondary
30 school shall begin no sooner than a day during the calendar
31 week in which the first day of September falls but no later
32 than the first Monday in December. However, if the first day
33 of September falls on a Sunday, school may begin on a day
34 during the calendar week which immediately precedes the first
35 day of September. School shall continue for ~~at least one~~

1 hundred-eighty-days the period specified in paragraph "b" of
2 this subsection, except as provided in subsection 3, and may
3 be maintained during the entire calendar year. However, if
4 the board of directors of a district extends the school
5 calendar because inclement weather caused the district to
6 temporarily close school during the regular school calendar,
7 the district may excuse a graduating senior who has met
8 district or school requirements for graduation from attendance
9 during the extended school calendar. A school corporation may
10 begin employment of personnel for in-service training and
11 development purposes before the date to begin elementary and
12 secondary school.

13 b. For the school year beginning July 1, 2006, the number
14 of elementary and secondary school instructional days shall be
15 at least one hundred eighty-two. For each succeeding school
16 year, the number of instructional days shall be increased by
17 two days over the number of instructional days applicable for
18 the preceding school year, through the school year beginning
19 July 1, 2010. For the school year beginning July 1, 2011, and
20 succeeding school years, the number of elementary and
21 secondary school instructional days shall be at least one
22 hundred ninety.

23 Sec. 3. Section 279.10, Code 2005, is amended by adding
24 the following new subsection:

25 NEW SUBSECTION. 5. There is appropriated annually for the
26 fiscal period beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30,
27 2011, from the general fund of the state to the department of
28 education, an amount sufficient to pay the per diem cost of
29 the increase of two additional instructional days over the
30 number of instructional days for the preceding school year for
31 each school district as provided in subsection 1, paragraph
32 "b". The department of management shall calculate the amount
33 sufficient to pay the per diem cost pursuant to this
34 subsection, which shall be distributed to school districts as
35 provided in section 257.16, subsection 2.

EXPLANATION

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This bill provides for a gradual increase in the number of instructional days contained within the school calendar for elementary and secondary pupils and makes appropriations.

The bill provides that for the school year beginning July 1, 2006, the number of instructional days shall be increased from 180 to 182. The annual increase of two additional instructional days shall continue for each succeeding school year until the number of instructional days reaches 190 for the school year beginning July 1, 2010, at which point the required number of instructional days shall remain at 190 for succeeding school years.

The bill creates a standing unlimited appropriation in an amount, as determined by the department of management, sufficient to provide to each school district the per diem cost of the two additional instructional days each year, for the five school years during which the number of instructional days is increasing. The amounts appropriated shall be distributed to school districts with other state aid amounts pursuant to Code section 257.16, subsection 2. In order to reflect the appropriated amounts in future state and district cost calculations, the bill provides for an alternative allowable growth calculation for the budget years immediately following the school years for which the appropriations are received.