

FEB 7 2006  
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2280  
BY FORD

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act directing the state board of regents to conduct a  
2 statewide study of the kindergarten through grade twelve  
3 school system to determine and recommend best strategies to  
4 improve student achievement.

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

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HF 2280

1 Section 1. STATE BOARD OF REGENTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT  
2 STUDY.

3 1. If funding is approved or appropriated to the state  
4 board of regents for purposes of conducting a student  
5 achievement study as provided in this subsection, the state  
6 board shall use the educational, economic, social, and  
7 political knowledge resources of its institutions of higher  
8 education to organize and conduct a comprehensive, statewide  
9 study of Iowa's kindergarten through grade twelve educational  
10 system to determine the best strategies for improving overall  
11 student achievement and reducing achievement gaps between  
12 racial and socioeconomic groups of children. The goal of the  
13 study shall be to establish a blueprint for the general  
14 assembly and education leaders to follow that maximizes  
15 student achievement regardless of racial, ethnic, cultural,  
16 socioeconomic, and geographic differences of Iowa's  
17 communities. The department of education, area education  
18 agencies, community colleges, and school districts shall  
19 assist the state board of regents in its efforts in gathering  
20 and processing the necessary data and in gaining access to and  
21 input from educational personnel, students, parents, and  
22 community leaders throughout the state.

23 2. The state board shall develop plans for conducting the  
24 study set forth in subsection 1, including recommendations for  
25 a completion date for the study and for funding the study, and  
26 shall submit the plans and recommendations in a report to the  
27 legislative fiscal committee by the committee's October  
28 meeting.

29 EXPLANATION

30 The bill directs the state board of regents to organize and  
31 conduct a comprehensive, statewide study of Iowa's  
32 kindergarten through grade 12 educational system to determine  
33 the best strategies for improving overall student achievement  
34 and reducing achievement gaps between racial and socioeconomic  
35 groups of children, but only if the legislative council or

1 general assembly provides funding for the study. The bill  
2 directs the department of education, area education agencies,  
3 community colleges, and school districts to assist the state  
4 board in gathering and processing the necessary data and in  
5 gaining access to and input from stakeholders for the study.

6 The state board must develop plans for conducting the  
7 study, including recommendations for a completion date for the  
8 study and for funding the study, and must submit the plans and  
9 recommendations in a report to the legislative fiscal  
10 committee by the committee's October meeting.

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