

FEB 8 2006  
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2313  
BY D. OLSON

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act establishing an efficiency in higher education Act.  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2313

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261E.1 TITLE.

2 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the  
3 "Efficiency in Higher Education Act".

4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 261E.2 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS --  
5 INTENT.

6 The general assembly finds and declares as follows:

7 1. Iowa's current and prospective employers have greater  
8 expectations for the knowledge and skills base of Iowa's  
9 workforce.

10 2. The demand continues to grow for baccalaureate degrees  
11 as Iowans realize that the challenge of a global economy will  
12 only be met by well-educated people.

13 3. Iowa's community colleges are an essential partner in  
14 meeting this demand.

15 4. It is essential to establish policies and procedures in  
16 the public higher education system that provide for efficient  
17 transfer of courses, credits, and prerequisites for academic  
18 majors.

19 5. The state universities must facilitate the efficient  
20 and effective progression and transfer of students from  
21 community colleges to baccalaureate education.

22 Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly to  
23 improve statewide coordination of transfer and articulation.

24 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 261E.3 TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION  
25 COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED.

26 1. A transfer and articulation committee is established.  
27 The committee shall consist of the following members:

28 a. The president, or the president's designee, of each  
29 community college established pursuant to chapter 260C.

30 b. The president, or the president's designee, of each  
31 institution of higher education governed by the state board of  
32 regents.

33 c. Three members who shall be appointed by the president  
34 of the state board of regents to represent the institutions of  
35 higher education governed by the board.

1 2. a. A vacancy on the committee exists when any of the  
2 following occurs:

3 (1) A member retires or terminates employment as a  
4 community college or university president.

5 (2) A member dies, resigns, is removed from office, or is  
6 otherwise physically unable to perform the duties of office.

7 (3) A member's term of office expires.

8 b. Members appointed pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph  
9 "c", shall serve four-year staggered terms which shall begin  
10 at 12:01 a.m. on May 1 in the year of appointment and expire  
11 at 12:00 midnight on April 30 in the year of expiration.

12 3. The committee shall elect a chairperson and vice  
13 chairperson. Meetings may be called by the chairperson or a  
14 majority of the members.

15 4. Members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary  
16 expenses incurred while engaged in their official duties.  
17 Expense payments shall be made from appropriations to the  
18 state board of regents.

19 5. The department of education and the state board of  
20 regents shall provide staff assistance and administrative  
21 support to the committee.

22 6. The committee shall do all of the following:

23 a. Develop a methodology to review all existing and future  
24 articulation agreements between the community colleges and the  
25 state universities governed by the state board of regents.

26 b. Establish a uniform system to streamline and make the  
27 transfer of credits from the community colleges to the state  
28 universities transparent and verifiable for students  
29 contemplating or completing coursework.

30 c. Develop a uniform course numbering system and uniform  
31 course descriptions to allow easy comparison of courses  
32 offered by the community colleges and state universities.

33 7. The committee may establish subcommittees to which the  
34 committee may delegate some or all of its responsibilities  
35 under subsection 6.

1 8. The committee shall submit a progress report to the  
2 general assembly in January 2007 and January 2008, and  
3 thereafter shall report to the general assembly biennially  
4 regarding its activities.

5 Sec. 4. INITIAL TERMS OF MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE  
6 PRESIDENT OF THE STATE BOARD OF REGENTS. The initial members  
7 of the transfer and articulation committee appointed by the  
8 president of the state board of regents shall be appointed to  
9 the following terms:

10 1. One member shall be appointed for a term of four years.

11 2. One member shall be appointed for a term of three  
12 years.

13 3. One member shall be appointed for a term of two years.

14 EXPLANATION

15 This bill establishes an efficiency in higher education Act  
16 to improve statewide coordination of transfer and articulation  
17 of students and course or program content between community  
18 colleges and the institutions of higher education governed by  
19 the state board of regents.

20 The bill states the legislative findings and intent leading  
21 to the establishment of a 20-member transfer and articulation  
22 committee consisting of the presidents from all of the 14  
23 community colleges, the presidents of all three state  
24 universities, or their designees, and three members appointed  
25 by the president of the state board of regents who also  
26 represent the state universities.

27 Members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary  
28 expenses incurred while engaged in their official duties.  
29 Expense payments shall be made from appropriations to the  
30 state board of regents.

31 The department of education and the state board of regents  
32 shall provide staff assistance and administrative support to  
33 the committee.

34 The committee is charged with developing a methodology to  
35 review all existing and future articulation agreements between

1 the community colleges and the state universities,  
2 establishing a uniform system to streamline and make the  
3 transfer of credits transparent and verifiable for students  
4 contemplating or completing coursework, and developing a  
5 uniform course numbering system and uniform course  
6 descriptions to allow easy comparison of courses offered by  
7 the community colleges and state universities. The committee  
8 is authorized to establish subcommittees to which the  
9 committee may delegate some or all of its responsibilities.

10 The committee must submit a progress report to the general  
11 assembly in January 2007 and January 2008, and thereafter a  
12 biennial report of its activities.

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