

FEB 1 6 2006  
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2416  
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Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to efforts to improve the educational environment  
2 in the classrooms operated by Iowa's school districts.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2416

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code Supplement 2005, is amended  
2 by adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 27. Establish and maintain, in  
4 cooperation with the board of educational examiners, a  
5 procedure for identifying the inappropriate assignment of  
6 instructional duties to teachers who do not hold the proper  
7 license or endorsement.

8 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
9 Supplement 2005, is amended to read as follows:

10 The state board shall adopt rules under chapter 17A and a  
11 procedure for accrediting all public and nonpublic schools in  
12 Iowa offering instruction at any or all levels from the  
13 prekindergarten level through grade twelve. The rules of the  
14 state board shall require that a multicultural, gender fair  
15 approach is used by schools and school districts. The rules  
16 shall provide that an area taught under the educational  
17 program set forth in this section shall be taught by a person  
18 employed as a practitioner who holds a valid license with an  
19 endorsement, issued in accordance with section 272.7, for the  
20 type of service for which the person is employed. The  
21 educational program shall be taught from a multicultural,  
22 gender fair approach. Global perspectives shall be  
23 incorporated into all levels of the educational program.

24 Sec. 3. Section 256.11, subsection 10, paragraph a, Code  
25 Supplement 2005, is amended to read as follows:

26 a. When either the annual monitoring or the biennial on-  
27 site visit of phase I indicates that a school or school  
28 district is deficient and fails to be in compliance with  
29 accreditation standards, including the standard which requires  
30 that an area taught under the educational program be taught by  
31 a person employed as a practitioner who holds a valid license  
32 with an endorsement, issued in accordance with section 272.7,  
33 for the type of service for which the person is employed.

34 Sec. 4. Section 272.2, Code 2005, is amended by adding the  
35 following new subsections:

1 NEW SUBSECTION. 17. Establish and maintain, in  
2 cooperation with the department of education, a procedure for  
3 identifying the inappropriate assignment of instructional  
4 duties to teachers who do not hold the proper license or  
5 endorsement.

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 18. Establish fines that may be imposed  
7 by the board on a practitioner who obtains a nonrenewable  
8 license that authorizes the practitioner to teach in a subject  
9 area prior to completing all of the requirements for an  
10 endorsement in that subject area, and who, by the license  
11 expiration date, continues to teach in the subject area, yet  
12 has made no further progress toward meeting the requirements  
13 for endorsement.

14 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 279.63 DISCIPLINE AND PERSONAL  
15 CONDUCT STANDARDS.

16 The board of directors of a school district shall establish  
17 and adopt a student discipline and conduct policy designed to  
18 promote responsible behavior on school property and at school  
19 functions and which shall govern the conduct of students,  
20 teachers and other school personnel, and visitors; provide  
21 opportunities for students to exercise self-discipline and  
22 practice cooperative classroom behavior; and encourage  
23 students and practitioners to model fairness, equity, and  
24 respect. The policy shall specify the responsibilities of  
25 students, parents and guardians, and practitioners in creating  
26 an atmosphere where all individuals feel a sense of respect,  
27 safety, and belonging, and shall set forth the consequences  
28 for unacceptable behavior. The policy shall be published in  
29 the student handbook.

30 Sec. 6. TEACHING ASSIGNMENT VALIDATION PROCESS. The board  
31 of educational examiners and the department of education shall  
32 develop a process, using the information reported in the basic  
33 educational data survey, to compare the licenses and  
34 endorsements held by practitioners with their teaching  
35 assignments. The board and the department shall submit a



1 process to ensure that teaching assignments go to  
2 appropriately licensed and endorsed teachers, providing for  
3 the establishment of fines that the board of educational  
4 examiners may impose on teachers, directing the director of  
5 the department of education to convene a school accreditation  
6 standards task force, and requiring school districts to  
7 establish, adopt, and publish a discipline and conduct policy  
8 designed to promote responsible behavior by persons on school  
9 property and at school functions.

10 INAPPROPRIATE ASSIGNMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL DUTIES. The bill  
11 directs both the state board of education and the board of  
12 educational examiners to establish and maintain a procedure  
13 for identifying the inappropriate assignment of instructional  
14 duties to teachers who do not hold the proper license or  
15 endorsement. The bill also requires that the state board's  
16 rules relating to the state's educational program provide that  
17 any area taught must be taught by a person employed as a  
18 practitioner who holds a valid license with an endorsement for  
19 the area being taught. Failure to meet the requirement places  
20 the school district or accredited nonpublic school in phase II  
21 of the department's accreditation process.

22 The bill also directs the board of educational examiners to  
23 establish fines that may be imposed on practitioners who  
24 obtain a license on the condition that the practitioner  
25 complete all of the requirements for endorsement by the  
26 expiration of the license, but who fail to meet that condition  
27 yet continue to teach in the subject area.

28 DISCIPLINE AND PERSONAL CONDUCT STANDARDS. The bill  
29 directs school boards to establish and adopt a student  
30 discipline and conduct policy designed to promote responsible  
31 behavior on school property and at school functions and which  
32 shall govern the conduct of students, teachers and other  
33 school personnel, and visitors. The policy must be published  
34 in the student handbook.

35 TEACHING ASSIGNMENT VALIDATION PROCESS. The bill directs

1 the board of educational examiners and the department of  
2 education to develop a process to compare the licenses and  
3 endorsements held by practitioners with their teaching  
4 assignments. The board and the department must submit a  
5 progress report, including proposed legislation, to the senate  
6 and house standing education committees on or by December 15,  
7 2006.

8 SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS TASK FORCE. The bill  
9 charges the director of the department of education with  
10 convening a task force to review and make recommendations to  
11 update the current school accreditation standards. The ten-  
12 member task force is directed to submit its findings and  
13 recommendations in a report to the senate and house standing  
14 education committees on or by December 15, 2006.

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