

FILED JAN 12 2005

SENATE FILE 27 EDUCATION  
BY TINSMAN and BOETTGER

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the development of an Iowa studies  
2 professional development plan and the establishment of an Iowa  
3 studies committee at the university of northern Iowa, and  
4 directing the department of education to evaluate and report  
5 on the plan.

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

- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23

SF 27 EDUCATION

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 268.6 IOWA STUDIES --  
2 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS -- CURRICULUM -- COMMITTEE.

3 1. The general assembly finds that Iowa students should  
4 have an appreciation for Iowa through the study of Iowa's  
5 history and government, and Iowa citizens' long and  
6 distinguished record of civic responsibility. There is a  
7 fundamental need for Iowa's students to be provided with  
8 learning opportunities that assist the students in succeeding  
9 in society and confer upon them the ability to make their own  
10 valuable contributions to Iowa's history.

11 2. The university of northern Iowa, in cooperation with  
12 the community colleges and area education agencies, shall  
13 develop an Iowa studies professional development plan that  
14 shall include professional development materials and training  
15 measures to provide Iowa's teachers with effective ways to  
16 infuse Iowa studies into their classrooms. The materials  
17 developed shall include an active and innovative Iowa studies  
18 learning curriculum that may be integrated into the social  
19 studies requirements for Iowa's secondary school students at  
20 the discretion of each board of directors of a school district  
21 or the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic  
22 school. The curriculum shall include lesson plans covering  
23 Iowa history, civics, Iowa government, and Iowa heritage  
24 studies. The curriculum developed shall be at least one-half  
25 of a unit of credit.

26 3. a. The dean of the college of education at the  
27 university of northern Iowa, in cooperation with the community  
28 colleges and area education agencies, shall establish an Iowa  
29 studies committee to do the following:

30 (1) Work to inform Iowa's accredited schools and area  
31 education agencies of the Iowa studies professional  
32 development plan, including how to effectively utilize the  
33 curriculum developed pursuant to subsection 2.

34 (2) Develop partnerships with organizations such as  
35 nonprofit history or humanities organizations, civic

1 organizations, libraries, and the business community to  
2 support and promote Iowa studies statewide.

3 (3) Establish evaluation criteria for the Iowa studies  
4 professional development plan, including but not limited to  
5 teacher and student evaluation, student tracking, and  
6 curriculum and plan effectiveness, which may include a survey  
7 of student participation in civic activities and involvement  
8 in the election process.

9 (4) Develop a strategy and plan to allow for the  
10 implementation of the Iowa studies professional development  
11 plan and curriculum in a limited number of schools and area  
12 education agencies across the state. Participation by a  
13 school or area education agency shall be voluntary. However,  
14 a school or area education agency selected to participate in  
15 the plan shall agree to participate in the evaluation  
16 component conducted by the department of education pursuant to  
17 subsection 4.

18 b. The committee membership shall be comprised of the  
19 following:

20 (1) The dean of the college of education of the university  
21 of northern Iowa or the dean's designee.

22 (2) The secretary of state or the secretary's designee.

23 (3) The director of the department of education or the  
24 director's designee.

25 (4) The director of the department of cultural affairs or  
26 the director's designee.

27 (5) The state librarian or the state librarian's designee.

28 (6) Persons appointed by the dean of the college of  
29 education of the university of northern Iowa, as follows:

30 (a) The administrator of an area education agency or the  
31 administrator's designee.

32 (b) An individual employed as an Iowa social studies  
33 teacher at an accredited school.

34 (c) An individual employed by a community college.

35 (d) A member of the Iowa council of social studies.

1 4. The department of education, in cooperation with the  
2 Iowa studies committee, shall do the following:

3 a. Conduct an evaluation of the Iowa studies professional  
4 development plan using the evaluation criteria established by  
5 the committee.

6 b. Submit, until June 30, 2008, an annual status report on  
7 the utilization of the Iowa studies professional development  
8 plan in Iowa's accredited schools to the chairpersons and  
9 ranking members of the senate and house committees on  
10 education by January 15. The annual report shall include the  
11 number of schools utilizing the plan.

12 c. Submit its findings and recommendations in a final  
13 report based upon the evaluation data compiled in accordance  
14 with subsection 3 to the chairpersons and ranking members of  
15 the senate and house committees on education by January 15,  
16 2009.

17 5. This section is repealed effective July 1, 2009.

18

EXPLANATION

19 This bill establishes the general assembly's findings with  
20 regard to the need for Iowa's students to have an appreciation  
21 for the state through the study of its history, government,  
22 and long and distinguished record of civic activities and  
23 contributions. The bill requires the university of northern  
24 Iowa to develop an Iowa studies professional development plan,  
25 in cooperation with community colleges and area education  
26 agencies (AEAs), that includes a professional development  
27 curriculum and supporting materials and training measures to  
28 provide Iowa's teachers with effective ways to infuse Iowa  
29 studies into their secondary school classrooms.

30 The bill directs the dean of the college of education at  
31 the university to establish, in cooperation with community  
32 colleges and AEAs, an Iowa studies committee to work to inform  
33 Iowa's accredited schools and area education agencies of the  
34 Iowa studies professional development plan, develop  
35 partnerships to support and promote Iowa studies statewide,

1 establish evaluation criteria for the Iowa studies  
2 professional development plan, and develop a strategy and plan  
3 to allow for the implementation of the professional  
4 development plan and curriculum in a limited number of schools  
5 and AEAs across the state.

6 The department of education is directed to conduct an  
7 evaluation of the Iowa studies professional development plan.  
8 The department must also submit an annual status report on the  
9 utilization of the Iowa studies professional development plan  
10 in Iowa's accredited schools and, by January 15, 2009, a final  
11 report, to the chairpersons and ranking members of the senate  
12 and house committees on education.

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35