

EDUCATION

H. F. 86

AN ACT to amend, revise, and codify sections twenty-two hundred sixty-five (2265) to twenty-two hundred seventy (2270), inclusive, section twenty-two hundred seventy-two (2272) and sections twenty-two hundred seventy-four (2274) to twenty-two hundred seventy-six (2276), inclusive, of the compiled code of Iowa, and sections twenty-five hundred fifty-eight-a three (2558-a3) and twenty-two hundred seventy-seven (2277) of the supplement to said code, relating to education.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

That sections twenty-two hundred sixty-five (2265) to twenty-two hundred seventy (2270), inclusive, section twenty-two hundred seventy-two (2272) and sections twenty-two hundred seventy-four (2274) to twenty-two hundred seventy-six (2276), inclusive, of the compiled Code of Iowa, and sections twenty-five hundred fifty-eight-a three (2558-a3), and twenty-two hundred seventy-seven (2277) of the supplement to said Code are amended, revised, and codified to read as follows:

Sec. 1. Qualifications. The superintendent of public instruction shall be a graduate of an accredited university or college, or of a four-year course above high school grade in an accredited normal school, and shall have had at least five (5) years' experience as a teacher or school superintendent.

Sec. 2. Office. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall be in the capitol and be known as the department of public instruction.

Sec. 3. General powers. He shall have general supervision and control over the rural, graded, and high schools of the state, and over such other state and public schools as are not under the control of the state board of education or board of control of state institutions.

Sec. 4. Duties. The superintendent of public instruction shall:

1. **Filing and preserving reports.** File and preserve all reports, documents and correspondence that may be of a permanent value, which shall be open for inspection under reasonable conditions by any citizen of the state.

2. **Keep a record of the business transacted by him.**

3. **Inspection.** Ascertain, so far as practicable, by inspection or otherwise, the condition, needs, and progress of the schools under the supervision and control of his department.

4. **Recommendations.** Suggest, through public addresses, pamphlets, bulletins, and by meetings and conferences with school officers, teachers, parents, and the public generally such changes and improvements relating to educational matters as he may think desirable, and publish and distribute such views and information as he may deem important.

5. **Promotion of interest in education.** Endeavor to promote among the people of the state an interest in education, including industrial and commercial education, agriculture, manual and vocational training, domestic science and continuation work.

6. Days for special observance. Publish and distribute from time to time leaflets and circulars relative to such days and occasions as he may deem worthy of special observance in the public schools.

7. Classification. Classify and define the various schools under the supervision and control of his department, formulate suitable courses of study therefor, and publish and distribute such classifications and courses of study.

8. Outline for teaching American citizenship. Prepare and distribute to all elementary schools lists of books and texts and an outline of American citizenship for all grades from one to eight, inclusive.

9. Distribution of outline of courses of study. Distribute to all high schools, academies, and institutions ranking as secondary schools lists of books and texts and an outline of a course of study in American history; civics of the state and nation, social problems and economics, prepared under his direction.

9-a. Manual on health training. Prepare, or approve, and distribute a manual on practical health training for the aid of teachers.

10. Officers' and teachers' reports - forms. Prescribe the reports, both regular and special, which shall be made by public school officers, superintendents, teachers, and other persons and officers having custody and control of public school funds or property, and prepare suitable forms and furnish blanks for such reports.

11. Report to auditor. Report to the auditor of state on the first day of January of each year the number of persons of school age in each county.

12. Report to governor. Report biennially, to the governor, at the time provided by law, the condition of the schools under his supervision, including the number and kinds of school districts, the number of schools of each kind, the number and value of schoolhouses, the enrollment and attendance in each county for the previous year, any measures proposed or plans matured for the improvement of the public schools, such financial and statistical information as may be of public importance, and such general information relating to educational affairs and conditions within the state or elsewhere as he may deem beneficial.

13. Institutes. Appoint at least one (1) and not more than two (2) county educational meetings or institutes, to be held in each county each year and designate the time and place for holding them. The program therefor, and the instructors and lecturers therein, shall be subject to his approval.

14. Examinations. Prepare and supply questions for the examination of applicants for teachers' certificates and pupils completing the eighth grade in the rural schools, and fix the times of such examinations.

15. Plans and specifications for buildings. When deemed necessary, cause to be prepared and published a pamphlet containing suitable plans and specifications for public school buildings, including the most approved means and methods of heating, lighting, and ventilating the same, together with information and suggestions for the proper and economical construction thereof.

16. Printing of school laws. During the months of June and July in the year nineteen hundred twenty-five (1925) and every four (4) years, thereafter, if deemed necessary, cause to be printed in book form all school laws then in force, with such forms, rulings, and decisions, and such notes and suggestions as may aid school officers in the proper discharge of their duties. A sufficient number shall be furnished to the county superintendent of each county to supply therein school officers, directors, superintendents, and to others in such numbers as may be reasonably requested.

17. Printing of changes in school laws. Cause to be printed in pamphlet form after each session of the general assembly, any amendments or changes in the school laws with necessary notes and suggestions to be distributed as above prescribed.

18. Appeals. Examine and determine all appeals taken to him, according to law, prescribe rules of practice therefor not inconsistent with law, and render written opinions upon questions submitted by school officers pertaining to their duties.

Sec. 5. Teachers' employment bureau. The superintendent of public instruction shall:

1. Adopt and publish regulations for carrying out the provisions of this section, and obtaining and furnishing information as to the experience, qualifications, and character of persons seeking employment as teachers.

2. Enroll any person having a certificate to teach in this state who shall be deemed by his department to be qualified and suitable for such employment, on written application made in compliance with such regulations.

3. Upon request furnish information as to teachers seeking employment to proper authorities of public schools, and furnish enrolled teachers with information relative to vacancies in public schools.

4. Employ such additional help as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

No person connected with the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall be held responsible or to be understood to vouch for the fitness or success of any teacher.

Sec. 6. Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) annually, for the biennium ending June 30, nineteen hundred twenty-five (1925), or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the preceding section.

Sec. 7. Reports from school officers and others-delinquency. The superintendent of public instruction may require from time to time reports under oath from all officers and persons who have any authority over, or who have any duties in connection with, public school affairs, or who have, or who have lately had, the custody or control of any public school funds or property. He shall furnish the proper blanks for such reports, and any such officer or person who unreasonably neglects or refuses to make a report required by him shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 8. Deputy - chief clerk - inspectors. He may appoint a deputy whose appointment must be approved by the governor. The qualifications of the deputy shall be the same as required for the superintendent. The deputy shall, in the absence or inability of the superintendent, perform the duties of the office. The superintendent of public instruction shall also appoint a chief clerk and such regular inspectors of the public schools of the state, including rural, graded, and high schools, as he may deem necessary, not exceeding three (3).

Sec. 9. Expenses. The superintendent of public instruction, his deputy and the regular inspectors in his department shall receive their actual necessary traveling expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.