

~~3.~~ ~~2.~~ The state, state agencies, ~~political~~ **Political** subdivisions of the state, school districts, area education agencies, community colleges, and nonprofit organizations may enter into financing agreements and issue obligations necessary to carry out the provisions of the chapter. Chapter 75 shall not be applicable.

Sec. 31. Section 476.46, subsection 2, paragraph d, subparagraph (2), Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

(2) A facility shall be eligible for no more than two hundred fifty thousand one million dollars in loans outstanding at any time under this program.

Sec. 32. Sections 473.11, 473.13, 473.16, 473.17, 473.42, and 473.44, Code 2007, are repealed.

Sec. 33. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved April 29, 2008

CHAPTER 1127

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS — CORE CURRICULUM CONTENT AND CAREER INFORMATION

S.F. 2216

AN ACT concerning state and local measures for preparing a student for a career or for post-secondary education, including a statewide core curriculum for school districts and accredited nonpublic schools and a state-designated career information and decision-making system.

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

Section 1. Section 256.7, subsections 26 and 28, Code Supplement 2007, are amended to read as follows:

26. a. Adopt rules that establish a ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum and requiring, beginning with the students in the 2010-2011 school year graduating class, high school graduation requirements for all students in school districts and accredited nonpublic schools that include at a minimum satisfactory completion of four years of English and language arts, three years of mathematics, three years of science, and three years of social studies. The ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum adopted shall address the core content standards in subsection 28 and the skills and knowledge students need to be successful in the twenty-first century. The ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum shall include social studies and twenty-first century learning skills which include but are not limited to civic literacy, health literacy, technology literacy, financial literacy, and employability skills; and shall address the curricular needs of students in kindergarten through grade twelve in those areas. For purposes of this subsection, "financial literacy" shall include but not be limited to financial responsibility and planning skills; money management skills, including setting financial goals, creating spending plans, and using financial instruments; applying decision-making skills to analyze debt incurrence and debt management; understanding risk management, including the features and functions of insurance; and understanding saving and investing as applied to long-term financial security and asset building.

~~b. The state board shall continue~~ Continue the inclusive process begun during the initial development of a ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum for grades nine through twelve including stakeholder involvement, including but not limited to representatives from the private sector and the business community, and alignment of the ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum to other recognized sets of national and international standards. The state board shall also recommend quality assessments to school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to measure the ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum.

The state board shall not require school districts or accredited nonpublic schools to adopt a specific textbook or textbook series to meet the core curriculum requirements of this subsection or the core content standards adopted pursuant to subsection 28.¹

28. Adopt a set of core content standards applicable to all students in kindergarten through grade twelve in every school district and accredited nonpublic school. For purposes of this subsection, “core content standards” includes reading, mathematics, and science. The core content standards shall be identical to the core content standards included in Iowa’s approved 2006 standards and assessment system under Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq., as amended by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. No. 107-110. School districts and accredited nonpublic schools shall include, at a minimum, the core content standards adopted pursuant to this subsection in any set of locally developed content standards. School districts and accredited nonpublic schools are strongly encouraged to ~~include the voluntary model core curriculum or~~ set higher expectations in local standards. As changes in federal law or regulation occur, the state board is authorized to amend the core content standards as appropriate.

Sec. 2. Section 256.9, Code Supplement 2007, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 57. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area education agencies, core curriculum technical assistance and implementation strategies that school districts and accredited nonpublic schools may utilize, including but not limited to the development and delivery of formative and end-of-course assessments classroom teachers can use to measure student progress on the core curriculum adopted pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26. The department shall continue to collaborate with Iowa testing programs on the development of end-of-course and additional assessments to align with the expectations included in the Iowa core curriculum.²

Sec. 3. Section 256.9, Code Supplement 2007, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 58. Submit an annual report to the general assembly by January 1 regarding activities, findings, and student progress under the core curriculum established pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26. The annual report shall include the state board’s findings and recommendations.

Sec. 4. Section 279.61, Code Supplement 2007, is amended to read as follows:

279.61 STUDENT PLAN FOR PROGRESS TOWARD UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS — REPORT.

1. For the school year beginning July 1, ~~2007~~ 2008, and each succeeding school year, the board of directors of each school district shall cooperate with each student enrolled in grade eight to develop for the student a core curriculum plan to guide the student toward the goal of successfully completing, at a minimum, the ~~voluntary model~~ core curriculum developed by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, by the time the student graduates from high school. The plan shall include career options and shall identify the coursework needed in grades nine through twelve to support the student’s postsecondary education and career options. Additionally, the plan shall include a timeline for each student to successfully complete, prior to graduation, all components of the state-designated career information and decision-making system administered by the department in accordance with

¹ See chapter 1191, §155 herein

² See chapter 1191, §156 herein

section 118 of the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006, Pub. L. No. 109-270. The student's parent or guardian shall sign the core curriculum plan developed with the student and the signed plan shall be included in the student's cumulative records.

2. For the school year beginning July 1, 2007 2008, and each succeeding school year, the board of directors of each school district shall report annually to each student enrolled in grades nine through twelve in the school district, and, if the student is under the age of eighteen, to each student's parent or guardian, the student's progress toward meeting the goal of successfully completing the core curriculum and high school graduation requirements adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26.

Sec. 5. Section 280.3, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

280.3 DUTIES OF BOARD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM — ATTENDANCE CENTER REQUIREMENTS.

1. The board of directors of each public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall prescribe the minimum educational program and an attendance policy which shall require each child to attend school for at least one hundred forty-eight days, to be met by attendance for at least thirty-seven days each school quarter, for the schools under their jurisdictions.

2. The minimum educational program shall be the curriculum set forth in subsection 3 of this section and section 256.11, except as otherwise provided by law. The board of directors of a public school district shall not allow discrimination in any educational program on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, marital status or place of national origin.

3. The board of directors of each public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall do all of the following:

a. Adopt an implementation plan by July 1, 2010, which provides for the adoption of at least one core curriculum subject area each year as established by the state board of education for grades nine through twelve pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26. The core curriculum established for grades nine through twelve by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, shall be fully implemented by each school district and school by July 1, 2012.

b. Adopt an implementation plan, by July 1, 2012, which provides for the full implementation of the core curriculum established for kindergarten through grade eight by the state board of education pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, by the 2014-2015 school year.

4. A nonpublic school which is unable to meet the minimum educational program may request an exemption from the state board of education. The authorities in charge of the nonpublic school shall file with the director of the department of education the names and locations of all schools desiring to be exempted and the names, ages, and post office addresses of all pupils of compulsory school age who are enrolled. The director, subject to the approval of the state board, may exempt the nonpublic school from compliance with the minimum educational program for two school years. When the exemption has once been granted, renewal of the exemption for each succeeding school year may be conditioned by the director, with the approval of the board, upon proof of achievement in the basic skills of arithmetic, the communicative arts of reading, writing, grammar, and spelling, and an understanding of United States history, history of Iowa, and the principles of American government, of the pupils of compulsory school age exempted in the preceding year. Proof of achievement shall be determined on the basis of tests or other means of evaluation prescribed by the director of the department of education with the approval of the state board of education. The testing or evaluation, if required, shall be accomplished prior to submission of the request for renewal of the exemption. Renewal requests shall be filed with the director by April 15 of the school year preceding the school year for which the applicants desire exemption. This section shall not apply to schools eligible for exemption under section 299.24.

5. The board of directors of each public school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic school shall establish and maintain attendance centers based upon the needs of the

school age pupils enrolled in the school district or nonpublic school. Public school kindergarten programs shall and public and nonpublic school prekindergarten programs may be provided. In addition, the board of directors or governing authority may include in the educational program of any school such additional courses, subjects, or activities which it deems fit the needs of the pupils.

Sec. 6. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — CORE CURRICULUM STUDY. The department of education shall conduct a study of the measures necessary for the successful adoption by the state's school districts and accredited nonpublic schools of core curriculums and core content standards established by rule pursuant to section 256.7, subsections 26 and 28. The³ department shall submit its findings and recommendations, including recommendations for statutory and administrative rule changes necessary, to the general assembly by November 14, 2008.

Sec. 7. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid received by the school district under section 257.16. This specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

Approved May 1, 2008

CHAPTER 1128

RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION — FINANCING AND INCENTIVES

S.F. 2405

AN ACT relating to renewable energy, providing for state bank acquisition of equity interests in wind energy production facilities, providing for qualification for specified tax credits and refunds by state banks and by owners or manufacturing facilities generating wind energy for on-site consumption rather than sale, providing for the establishment or participation in a program to track, record, or verify the trading of credits for electricity generated from specified sources, and providing effective and retroactive applicability dates.

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

DIVISION I BANK WIND ENERGY INVESTMENT

Section 1. Section 524.802, Code 2007, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 13A. Provide customer financing for wind energy production facilities eligible for production tax credits pursuant to chapter 476B in a manner that maximizes the availability of production tax credits to the state bank, including structuring such financing as a membership investment whereby the state bank as equity investor may take a majority financial position, but not a management position, in each such facility, subject to the following:

³ See chapter 1191, §159 herein