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SENATE FILE 2146
BY VANDE HOEF

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to educational standards, providing for an
2 exception to the physical education requirements, separation
3 of instructional time for certain aspects of the human growth
4 and development curriculum, and providing for an alternative
5 method of accreditation for public and nonpublic schools.
6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 2146

1 Section 1. Section 256.11A, Code 1991, is amended by
2 adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. Schools and school districts are not
4 required to meet the physical education standard contained in
5 section 256.11, subsections 3 and 4, and subsection 5,
6 paragraph "g", if the school or school district maintains a
7 physical education program which requires that all students
8 enrolled in grades one through twelve in the school or school
9 district attend a physical education class during each full
10 day of school that requires a student to be physically active
11 for at least half of the daily class time otherwise required
12 to be scheduled.

13 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256.11B ALTERNATIVE ACCREDITATION
14 PROCESS.

15 1. As an alternative to the standards and accreditation
16 procedures contained in sections 256.11 and 256.11A, and the
17 rules adopted by the state board of education to implement the
18 standards and accreditation procedures, the department of
19 education shall recommend rules for adoption by the state
20 board under chapter 17A which provide for the establishment of
21 an alternative performance-based system for accrediting public
22 and nonpublic schools by the school year which begins July 1,
23 1993. In developing recommendations, the director of the
24 department of education shall appoint an advisory committee to
25 assist the department. The committee shall include, but is
26 not limited to, representatives from schools and school
27 districts of different sizes around the state.

28 2. The performance-based accreditation system shall be
29 based on performance and outcome measures. The measures
30 adopted in the state board's rules shall include, but are not
31 limited to, the plans for pupil performance required under
32 section 280.12, subsection 1, paragraphs "c" and "d", the
33 student achievement goals developed under the guidelines
34 established in section 280.18, and a requirement that schools
35 and school districts identify the means that will be used to

1 determine and to report on the achievement of all segments of
2 the student population.

3 3. The recommendations for rules relating to the
4 alternative accreditation procedures shall include all of the
5 following:

6 a. A requirement that, by January 15 of each year, the
7 board of directors of each school district and the authorities
8 in charge of each nonpublic school, shall notify the
9 department of education of its intent to seek accreditation
10 under the alternative performance-based accreditation
11 procedures for the following school year. A school district
12 or nonpublic school which notifies the department that it has
13 chosen to be accredited under this section is not subject to
14 the standards specified in sections 256.11 and 256.11A.

15 b. A procedure for determining whether a school district
16 or nonpublic school is to be accredited under this section,
17 which shall be identical to the accreditation procedures
18 contained in section 256.11, subsections 10 through 12.

19 c. A provision that, if the state board determines in its
20 review of the accreditation committee's report under the
21 alternative performance-based accreditation procedures that a
22 school or school district does not meet the alternative
23 performance-based standards, the state board, in cooperation
24 with the school or school district may choose to use the
25 accreditation standards contained in sections 256.11 and
26 256.11A, as well as the standards under this section, as part
27 of the plan prescribing the procedures to be taken by the
28 district to correct any deficiencies in meeting the
29 alternative performance-based accreditation standards.

30 d. A provision for an annual review and approval process
31 for the accreditation standards and procedures established
32 under this section, to be performed by the state board of
33 education. The process shall include, but is not limited to,
34 consideration of additional or revised methods of measuring
35 performance and outcomes for the purpose of accrediting

1 schools and school districts.

2 e. A requirement that schools and school districts which
3 seek accreditation under the alternative performance-based
4 accreditation standards shall comply with the practitioner
5 licensing requirements contained in chapter 260.

6 Sec. 3. Section 260.2, Code 1991, is amended by adding the
7 following new subsection:

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 15. Adopt, if deemed appropriate by the
9 board, in cooperation with the state board of education, rules
10 which provide optional licensing requirements and procedures,
11 or waiver procedures, for practitioners employed by schools or
12 school districts which are accredited under the alternative
13 performance-based accreditation standards.

14 Sec. 4. Section 279.50, subsection 4, unnumbered paragraph
15 2, Code Supplement 1991, is amended to read as follows:

16 Each school board shall provide instruction in human growth
17 and development including instruction regarding human
18 sexuality, self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal
19 relationships, domestic abuse, and acquired immune deficiency
20 syndrome as required in section 256.11, in grades one through
21 twelve. Each school district which provides instruction in
22 human sexuality, reproduction, and contraception and family
23 planning shall offer the instruction in separate courses or
24 identifiable units of courses. Each school board shall
25 annually provide to a parent or guardian of any pupil enrolled
26 in the school district, information about the human growth and
27 development curriculum used in the pupil's grade level and the
28 procedure for inspecting the instructional materials prior to
29 their use in the classroom. A pupil shall not be required to
30 take instruction in human growth and development if the
31 pupil's parent or guardian files with the appropriate
32 principal a written request that the pupil be excused from the
33 instruction. Notification that the written request may be
34 made shall be included in the information provided by the
35 school district.

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EXPLANATION

Section 1 of this bill provides for an alternative to the physical education requirements contained in the standards for accreditation of schools and school districts. The alternative standard provides that a school or school district that provides a physical education program every day that requires students to be physically active at least half of the daily class time scheduled for physical education shall be deemed to have met the standard for accreditation for the physical education program for grades one through 12.

Section 2 provides for the development of alternative performance-based accreditation standards and procedures for schools and school districts which may be used in lieu of the accreditation standards and procedures contained in sections 256.11 and 256.11A. The procedures to be used to determine whether the alternative performance-based accreditation standards are being met are to be identical to those used under the current accreditation system. Schools and school districts will be required to meet the requirements of chapter 260 for the licensing of practitioners under their employ, and the board of educational examiners is given the authority to develop under section 3 alternative licensing standards and procedures or a waiver procedure for practitioners employed by schools or school districts that are accredited under the alternative performance-based accreditation standards and procedures.

Section 4 provides that certain subject matter areas of the human growth and development curriculum be taught as separate courses or units within a course.