



Disability Rights Iowa

Disability Rights Iowa HF 2306 - Memorandum of Impact February 17, 2026

Chairpersons and honorable members of the Committee. My name is Catherine E. Johnson. I am the Executive Director of Disability Rights Iowa. DRI is an independent, non-profit agency, which serves as the designated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in the state of Iowa, pursuant to federal mandates. The mission of the agency is to protect and advocate for the human and legal rights of Iowans with disabilities. I appear before you to share DRI's concerns regarding the impact of HF 2306 on the Disability Community.

Overview of HF 2306

HF 2306 requires any teacher who teaches a student with a 504 plan or an IEP shall read the plan and certify through written notice that they have read the plan.

Potential Impacts on Students with disabilities:

All teachers serving students with disabilities are required by federal law to have read and implement a student's IEP or 504 Plan. In DRI's experience, not all teachers are aware of these documents, nor do they implement them with fidelity. Requiring the teacher to provide written notice that they have read the plans provides an extra step to help remind teachers of this obligation and add a measure of accountability to do so.

It is unclear in HF 2306 what happens to the written notice provided to the special education teacher or the principal. These written notices may become part of the student's educational record, but HF 2306 does not expressly state such. If HF 2306 expressly stated that these written notices are part of the student's educational record, as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), that would ensure the record is maintained in an orderly fashion and allow parents access to the

record so that they can ensure all relevant teachers have read their student's IEP or 504 Plan.

DRI requests an amendment to HF 2306:

DRI requests an amendment to HF 2306 that specifies that the signed written notice is part of the student's educational records as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). DRI urges legislators to thoughtfully consider the testimony submitted today, the concerns previously shared by parents and stakeholders, and to take time fully understand the impact of HF 2306 on students with disabilities. DRI requests that you vote to amend HS 2306 to include DRI's suggestion. DRI welcomes the opportunity to discuss our concerns more in-depth with any member of the Iowa Legislature. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful deliberation of our testimony in support of HF 2306.