

House File 2676

H-8069

1 Amend House File 2676 as follows:

2 1. Page 7, after line 23 by inserting:

3 <DIVISION \_\_\_\_  
4 EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

5 Sec. \_\_\_\_ . Section 256.11, subsection 2, Code 2026, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 2. a. The kindergarten program shall include experiences  
8 designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits and  
9 growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well  
10 as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and  
11 protect and increase physical well-being with attention given  
12 to experiences relating to the development of life skills and,  
13 subject to [section 279.80](#), age-appropriate and research-based  
14 human growth and development. The kindergarten program shall  
15 also include instruction related to nutrition that emphasizes  
16 all of the following:

17 (1) The importance of animal-based protein, dairy,  
18 vegetables, and fruit.

19 (2) The nutritional benefits of animal-based protein,  
20 dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

21 (3) The role that animal-based protein, dairy, vegetables,  
22 and fruit play in a balanced diet.

23 b. A kindergarten teacher shall be licensed to teach in  
24 kindergarten.

25 c. An accredited nonpublic school must meet the requirements  
26 of [this subsection](#) only if the nonpublic school offers a  
27 kindergarten program; provided, however, that [section 279.80](#)  
28 shall not apply to a nonpublic school.

29 Sec. \_\_\_\_ . Section 256.11, subsection 3, paragraph a,  
30 subparagraph (5), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

31 (5) Health. The health curriculum shall include the all of  
32 the following:

33 (a) The characteristics of communicable diseases.

34 (b) Instruction related to nutrition that emphasizes all of  
35 the following:

1     (i) The importance of animal-based protein, dairy,  
2 vegetables, and fruit.

3     (ii) The nutritional benefits of animal-based protein,  
4 dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

5     (iii) The role that animal-based protein, dairy,  
6 vegetables, and fruit play in a balanced diet.

7     Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph a,  
8 subparagraphs (5) and (7), Code 2026, are amended to read as  
9 follows:

10     (5) Health. The health curriculum shall include  
11 ~~age-appropriate~~ all of the following:

12     (a) Age-appropriate and research-based information  
13 regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases.

14     (b) Instruction related to nutrition that emphasizes all of  
15 the following:

16     (i) The importance of animal-based protein, dairy,  
17 vegetables, and fruit.

18     (ii) The nutritional benefits of animal-based protein,  
19 dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

20     (iii) The role that animal-based protein, dairy,  
21 vegetables, and fruit play in a balanced diet.

22     (7) Career instruction, exploration, and development, which  
23 shall include career investigation, career connections, and  
24 career intentions. Career exploration and development shall  
25 be designed so that students are appropriately prepared to  
26 create an individualized career and academic plan pursuant to  
27 section 279.61, incorporate foundational career and technical  
28 education concepts aligned with the six career and technical  
29 education service areas as defined in subsection 5, paragraph  
30 "h", incorporate relevant twenty-first century skills to  
31 facilitate career readiness, and introduce students to career  
32 opportunities within the local community and across this state.  
33 This subparagraph shall not apply to the teaching of career  
34 exploration and development in nonpublic schools.

35     Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256.11, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code

1 2026, is amended to read as follows:

2     *b.* Computer science instruction incorporating the standards  
3 established under [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph “a”,  
4 subparagraph (4), shall be offered in at least one grade level  
5 commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2023. ~~Career~~  
6 ~~exploration and development shall be designed so that students~~  
7 ~~are appropriately prepared to create an individual career~~  
8 ~~and academic plan pursuant to [section 279.61](#), incorporate~~  
9 ~~foundational career and technical education concepts aligned~~  
10 ~~with the six career and technical education service areas as~~  
11 ~~defined in [subsection 5](#), paragraph “h”, incorporate relevant~~  
12 ~~twenty-first century skills to facilitate career readiness, and~~  
13 ~~introduce students to career opportunities within the local~~  
14 ~~community and across this state.~~

15     Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph h,  
16 subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (a), Code 2026, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18     (a) Agriculture, food, and natural resources, which  
19 shall include instruction relating to food production and the  
20 benefits of local sourcing.

21     Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph j,  
22 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

23     (1) One unit of health education which may include  
24 personal health; food and nutrition; environmental health;  
25 safety and survival skills; consumer health; family life;  
26 age-appropriate and research-based human growth and development  
27 that incorporates the standards established under section  
28 279.50, subsection 3, paragraph “b”; substance use disorder  
29 and nonuse; emotional and social health; health resources;  
30 cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and prevention and control  
31 of disease, including age-appropriate and research-based  
32 information regarding sexually transmitted diseases. The one  
33 unit of health education shall include instruction related to  
34 nutrition that emphasizes all of the following:

35     (a) The importance of animal-based protein, dairy,

1 vegetables, and fruit.

2 (b) The nutritional benefits of animal-based protein,  
3 dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

4 (c) The role that animal-based protein, dairy, vegetables,  
5 and fruit play in a balanced diet.

6 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h, Code  
7 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraphs:

8 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (01) The educational standards  
9 established in section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, and  
10 section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "j", subparagraph (1),  
11 related to instruction on nutrition.

12 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (3) The educational standards  
13 established in section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "h",  
14 subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (a), related to  
15 instruction relating to food production and the benefits of  
16 local sourcing.

17 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is  
18 amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

19 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Op.* Be subject to and comply with the  
20 requirements of section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, and  
21 section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "j", subparagraph (1),  
22 related to instruction on nutrition in the same manner as a  
23 school district.

24 NEW PARAGRAPH. *w.* Be subject to and comply with the  
25 requirements of section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph  
26 "h", subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (a), related to  
27 instruction relating to food production and the benefits of  
28 local sourcing in the same manner as a school district.

29 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. NEW SECTION. **283A.14 Application for waiver —**  
30 **updated nutritional guidelines — joint committee.**

31 1. The general assembly finds and declares all of the  
32 following:

33 *a.* The nutritional needs and cultural preferences of  
34 the students in Iowa might be better served by localizing  
35 nutritional standards.

1     *b.* Unique regional food sources, including corn, pork, and  
2 dairy, are not adequately addressed by federal guidelines.

3     *c.* Flexibility in nutritional standards can enhance the  
4 ability of schools to provide meals that are both nutritious  
5 and appealing to students, which may increase student  
6 participation in school breakfast and lunch programs.

7     2. Within ninety days after the effective date of this Act,  
8 the department of education shall apply for a waiver under the  
9 provisions of the federal National School Lunch Act of 1966, 42  
10 U.S.C. §1751 et seq., and the federal Child Nutrition Act of  
11 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1771 et seq., to request all of the following:

12     *a.* An exemption from sodium limits, whole grain  
13 requirements, and fruit and vegetable variety stipulations in  
14 school breakfast and lunch programs.

15     *b.* Permission to substitute or modify federal requirements  
16 with state-specific nutritional guidelines that align with  
17 Iowa's dietary recommendations or cultural food practices.

18     3. If the waiver applied for by the department of  
19 education under subsection 2 is granted, the department of  
20 education shall adopt updated guidelines for what constitutes  
21 a nutritionally adequate meal. The department shall consult  
22 with the department of agriculture and land stewardship,  
23 experts in nutrition, educators, parents, local farmers, and  
24 other stakeholders during the process of adopting updated  
25 guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal.  
26 The guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate  
27 meal may reflect local preferences, regional food sources,  
28 including corn, pork, and dairy, and cultural considerations.  
29 The guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate  
30 meal must satisfy all of the following requirements:

31     *a.* Be at least as stringent in promoting health and  
32 preventing chronic diseases as the federal guidelines.

33     *b.* Maintain a commitment to nutritional health and student  
34 well-being.

35     *c.* Prioritize the following food groups, in the order

1 listed:

2 (1) Animal-based protein, including but not limited to  
3 beef, pork, poultry, fish, and eggs.

4 (2) Dairy products, including but not limited to milk,  
5 cheese, and yogurt.

6 (3) Vegetables, including but not limited to local and  
7 seasonal produce.

8 (4) Fresh fruit or dried or frozen fruit when fresh fruit is  
9 not seasonally available.

10 4. If the waiver applied for by the department of education  
11 under subsection 2 is granted, the department of education  
12 and the department of agriculture and land stewardship shall  
13 establish a joint committee to do all of the following:

14 a. Oversee the implementation of the guidelines for what  
15 constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal.

16 b. Review the outcomes associated with the guidelines for  
17 what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal.

18 c. Study the nutritional science associated with the  
19 guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal  
20 and seek feedback from schools, parents, and agricultural  
21 stakeholders related to the guidelines.

22 d. Provide recommendations to the department of education  
23 related to changes that may need to be made to the guidelines  
24 for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal.

25 5. If the waiver applied for by the department of  
26 education under subsection 2 is granted, the department of  
27 education shall submit to the general assembly an annual  
28 report, beginning on or before the first June 30 after  
29 the implementation of the new guidelines, which describes  
30 the impact of the guidelines related to what constitutes a  
31 nutritionally adequate meal, including information related  
32 to school breakfast and lunch program participation, student  
33 health outcomes, feedback from school districts, progress  
34 in implementing the guidelines, challenges associated with  
35 implementing the guidelines, and recommendations for further

1 enhancement of the guidelines.

2 6. If the waiver applied for by the department of education  
3 under subsection 2 is granted, the department of education  
4 shall conduct an evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the  
5 guidelines for what constitutes a nutritionally adequate meal  
6 compared to the comparable federal standards within five years  
7 after the effective date of the waiver.

8 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following, being deemed of  
9 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment:

10 The section of this division of this Act enacting section  
11 283A.14.

12 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. APPLICABILITY. The following apply to school  
13 years beginning on or after July 1, 2027:

14 1. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
15 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4.

16 2. The section of this division of this Act amending  
17 section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "h", subparagraph (1),  
18 subparagraph division (a).

19 3. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
20 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph "j", subparagraph (1).

21 4. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
22 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph "h".

23 5. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
24 256F.4, subsection 2.>

25 2. Title page, line 2, after <medication,> by inserting <and  
26 education,>

27 3. By renumbering as necessary.

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WULF of Black Hawk