

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act concerning instruction provided through the Iowa
2 learning online initiative.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.42, subsection 7, Code 2016, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 7. The department may waive for one year the provisions
4 of section 256.11, subsection 5, which require that specified
5 subjects be offered and taught by professional staff of a
6 school district or school, if the school district or school
7 makes every reasonable and ~~good-faith~~ good-faith effort to
8 employ a teacher licensed under chapter 272 for such a subject,
9 and the school district or school proves to the satisfaction
10 of the department that the school district or school is unable
11 to employ such a teacher. The specified subject shall be
12 provided by the initiative. The specified subject may instead
13 be provided by the school district or school if all of the
14 following conditions are met:
15 a. The course content is provided through an online learning
16 platform by a licensed teacher with online learning experience.
17 b. The course content provided is aligned with school
18 district or school standards.
19 c. The course is not offered by the initiative pursuant to
20 this section, or the course offered by the initiative lacks the
21 capacity to accommodate additional students.
22 d. The course is the sole course per semester that
23 the school district or school is providing instead of the
24 initiative pursuant to this subsection.

25 EXPLANATION

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 Current law permits the state department of education to
29 waive a requirement that specified subjects available through
30 the Iowa learning online initiative be offered and taught by
31 professional staff of a school district or school if the school
32 district or school makes every reasonable and good-faith effort
33 to employ a teacher licensed for such a subject, and the school
34 district or school proves to the satisfaction of the department
35 that the school district or school is unable to employ such a

1 teacher. The specified subject can only be provided by the
2 initiative.

3 This bill provides that if the department grants such a
4 waiver, the specified subject may be provided by the district
5 or school instead of the initiative if certain conditions
6 specified in the bill are met.