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[HF 2670](#) – Duties of State Board and Director of Education and Educational Standards (LSB5669HV.3)  
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Fiscal Note Version – Final Action

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**Description**

[House File 2670](#) modifies provisions related to summative testing in schools and the educational program provided to students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12.

The Bill adds or requires the following:

- Adds social studies to Iowa’s core academic indicators for students in grades 8 and 10.
- Requires the addition of a summative social studies assessment to the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP), administered to students in grades 8 and 11, to align with Iowa standards in both rigor and content.
- Moves the administration of the summative science assessment from grade 10 to grade 11.
- Requires the administration of a summative social studies assessment in grades 8 and 11.
- Requires instruction related to physical education and nutrition in the health curriculum for students in grades one through eight.
- Allows for the two additional units of mathematics for students in grades 9 through 12 to include instruction related to agriculture.
- Requires the one unit of health to include instruction related to physical fitness, food and nutrition, and personal health for grades 9 through 12.
- Requires guidance counselors to work collaboratively with parents or guardians.
- Requires the State Board of Education (BOE) to take certain action in instances of noncompliance with relevant State and federal requirements.

The Bill removes requirements related to the following:

- Adopting administrative rules related to protocols for identifying adverse childhood experiences.
- Distributing standards for equity coordinators to school districts.
- Including a multicultural and gender-fair approach in educational standards.
- Including experiences to develop healthy social and emotional habits and age-appropriate research-based human growth and development in kindergarten programs.
- Including emotional and social health instruction within health education for grades 9 through 12.
- Consideration of standards and best practices from certain national organizations.

The Bill requires school districts to pay costs required by the Bill from State Foundation School Aid per Iowa Code section [25B.2](#) (State mandates).

Provisions related to educational standards of the kindergarten program and health curricula in grades one through eight apply to charter schools and innovation zone schools.

Provisions related to the administration of the social studies summative assessment apply to school years beginning on or after July 1, 2027.

## **Background**

The Iowa core academic indicators are a set of common expectations for students in public school districts that are analyzed in the Iowa School Performance Profiles. The profiles provide a comprehensive view of how schools are performing and serving students. The indicators include proficiency in English language arts, mathematics, and science; student academic growth; chronic absenteeism; attendance growth; and postsecondary readiness.

The federal [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#) requires that states annually assess all students on achievement of grade-level, State-adopted standards in mathematics, reading, and science. The ISASP is a summative accountability assessment for all Iowa students and meets the ESSA requirements. Assessments for English language arts and mathematics are administered in grades 3 through 11. Assessments for science are administered in grades 5, 8, and 10. There is currently no summative assessment for social studies.

Iowa Code section [256.11](#) (Educational Standards) outlines the requirements for educational programs for students in public and accredited nonpublic schools.

## **Assumptions**

- Iowa Testing Programs (ITP) within the University of Iowa's College of Education will create, review, and distribute the ISASP summative assessments for social studies.
- Developing the social studies assessment will require test design and finalization of specifications, item development and review, final form assembly, first administration of the assessment, and completion of a standard-setting process to be incorporated into the existing ISASP reporting mechanism.
- The Board of Regents estimated an initial one-time cost of \$181,000 to develop a social studies assessment.
- The assessment will cost school districts an additional \$5.25 per student to administer, score, and report the results of the assessment.
- Class sizes of the students required to take the new social studies assessment are estimated to total 80,000 annually in both grades 8 and 11.
- Additional curriculum changes under the Bill are not anticipated to have a fiscal impact.

## **Fiscal Impact**

House File 2670 has a total estimated cost of \$601,000 in FY 2027. This includes a one-time cost of \$181,000 to the Board of Regents to develop the social studies ISASP assessment and an annual ongoing cost for the test across school districts of approximately \$420,000, depending on the class size.

The Bill requires school districts to pay costs required by the Bill from State Foundation School Aid per Iowa Code section [25B.2\(3\)](#).

## **Sources**

Iowa Testing Programs  
Board of Regents  
Department of Education

/s/ Jennifer Acton

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The Fiscal Note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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