

**NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
2026 REGULAR SESSION  
DAILY  
HOUSE CLIP SHEET**

**April 15, 2026**

**Clip Sheet Summary**

Displays all amendments, fiscal notes, and conference committee reports for previous day.

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
<a href="#">HF 2754</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8371</a> .....	Filed	WHEELER of Sioux
<a href="#">HF 2757</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8365</a> .....	Filed	YOUNG of Dallas, et al
<a href="#">HF 2757</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8368</a> .....	Filed	THOMSON of Floyd
<a href="#">SF 473</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8370</a> .....	Filed	LOHSE of Polk
<a href="#">SF 2263</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8366</a> .....	Filed	HOLT of Crawford
<a href="#">SF 2284</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8367</a> .....	Filed	THOMSON of Floyd
<a href="#">SF 2284</a> .....	<a href="#">H-8369</a> .....	Filed	JONES of Clay, et al

HOUSE FILE 2754

H-8371

1 Amend House File 2754 as follows:

2 1. By striking everything after the enacting clause and  
3 inserting:

4 <DIVISION I

5 CHARTER SCHOOLS

6 Section 1. Section 29E.1, subsection 1, paragraph b,  
7 subparagraph (4), Code 2026, is amended by striking the  
8 subparagraph.

9 Sec. 2. Section 232E.1, subsection 6, Code 2026, is amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 6. "*Public school district*" means a public school district  
12 as described in chapter 274, and includes a charter school  
13 under chapter 256E, ~~or a charter school or an innovation zone~~  
14 ~~school under chapter 256F.~~

15 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 15, Code 2026, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 15. Adopt rules under chapter 17A that require school  
18 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools,  
19 ~~and innovation zone schools~~ to include information regarding  
20 the exemptions and requirements for an exemption described  
21 in section 139A.8, subsection 4, in any communication to  
22 the parent or guardian of a student that is related to the  
23 immunizations required under section 139A.8.

24 Sec. 4. Section 256.9, subsections 69, 71, 73, and 78, Code  
25 2026, are amended to read as follows:

26 69. On or before May 1, 2025, develop and distribute to  
27 school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter  
28 schools, ~~and innovation zone schools~~ model policies that, if  
29 adopted, would satisfy a school district's responsibilities  
30 under section 279.88 relating to policies governing student use  
31 of personal electronic devices.

32 71. Develop and distribute to school districts, accredited  
33 nonpublic schools, and charter schools, ~~and innovation~~  
34 ~~zone schools~~ family-centered resources to support student  
35 development of mathematics knowledge at home.

1 73. On or before July 1, 2025, develop and distribute to  
2 school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter  
3 schools, ~~and innovation zone schools~~ a comprehensive state  
4 mathematics plan that is designed to increase the level of  
5 mathematics proficiency attained by students using systematic  
6 and sequential approaches to teaching subitizing, cardinality,  
7 object counting, verbal counting, spatial relationships,  
8 benchmark numbers, and part-part-whole models.

9 78. a. Develop and distribute to school districts,  
10 accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools, ~~and~~  
11 ~~innovation zone schools~~ a test in multiple-choice format that  
12 consists of all of the questions contained in the most recent  
13 version of the civics test developed by the United States  
14 citizenship and immigration services.

15 b. On or before the January 31 immediately subsequent to  
16 each general election which is a presidential election, update  
17 the test described in paragraph "a" and distribute the updated  
18 test to school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and  
19 charter schools, ~~and innovation zone schools~~.

20 Sec. 5. Section 256.163, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
21 by adding the following new paragraph:

22 NEW PARAGRAPH. f. A charter school established pursuant to  
23 chapter 256E, subchapter I.

24 Sec. 6. Section 256E.1, subsection 2, paragraphs a and b,  
25 Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

26 a. A school board may create a founding group to apply to  
27 the state board or the university of northern Iowa for approval  
28 to establish and operate a charter school within and as a part  
29 of the school district by establishing a new attendance center,  
30 creating a new school within an existing attendance center, or  
31 by converting an existing attendance center to charter status.

32 b. A founding group may apply to the state board or the  
33 university of northern Iowa for approval to establish and  
34 operate a charter school within the boundaries of the state  
35 that operates as a new attendance center independently from a

1 public school district.

2 Sec. 7. Section 256E.1, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph  
3 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

4 The purpose of a charter school established pursuant to this  
5 ~~chapter~~ subchapter shall be to accomplish the following:

6 Sec. 8. Section 256E.1, subsection 3, paragraph d, Code  
7 2026, is amended to read as follows:

8 *d.* Accelerating student learning to prevent learning loss  
9 during the ~~COVID-19 pandemic and other~~ significant disruptions  
10 to student learning.

11 Sec. 9. Section 256E.1, subsection 4, Code 2026, is amended  
12 to read as follows:

13 4. The state board of education and the university of  
14 northern Iowa shall be the only ~~authorizer~~ authorizers of  
15 charter schools under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

16 Sec. 10. Section 256E.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026,  
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 As used in this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, unless the context  
19 otherwise requires:

20 Sec. 11. Section 256E.2, subsections 2 and 5, Code 2026, are  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 2. "*Charter school*" means a school established in accordance  
23 with this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

24 5. "*Founding group*" means a person, group of persons,  
25 or education service provider that develops and submits an  
26 application for a charter school to the state board or the  
27 university of northern Iowa under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

28 Sec. 12. Section 256E.3, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
29 follows:

30 **256E.3 Department — duty to monitor.**

31 The department shall monitor the effectiveness of charter  
32 schools and shall implement the applicable provisions of this  
33 ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

34 Sec. 13. Section 256E.4, subsections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,  
35 and 10, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

1 1. A school board may create a founding group to apply to  
2 the state board or the university of northern Iowa for approval  
3 to establish and operate a charter school within and as a part  
4 of the school district by establishing a new attendance center,  
5 creating a new school within an existing attendance center, or  
6 by converting an existing attendance center. The application  
7 shall demonstrate the founding group's academic and operational  
8 vision and plans for the proposed charter school, demonstrate  
9 the founding group's capacity to execute the vision and plans,  
10 and provide the state board or the university of northern Iowa  
11 a clear basis for assessing the founding group's plans and  
12 capacity.

13 2. The state board, in consultation with the university  
14 of northern Iowa, shall adopt rules to establish appropriate  
15 application timelines and deadlines for the submission of  
16 charter school applications under this section.

17 3. The instructions for completing an application shall  
18 include or otherwise inform applicants of all of the following:

19 a. The performance framework adopted by the state board, in  
20 consultation with the university of northern Iowa, for charter  
21 school oversight and evaluation requirements in accordance with  
22 sections 256E.9 and 256E.10.

23 b. The criteria the state board or the university of  
24 northern Iowa will use in evaluating applications.

25 c. The requirements concerning the format and content  
26 essential for applicants to demonstrate the capacities  
27 necessary to establish and operate a successful charter school.

28 5. If the founding group proposes to establish a charter  
29 school by converting an existing attendance center of the  
30 school district, the state board or the university of northern  
31 Iowa shall not approve the application unless the founding  
32 group submits evidence that the attendance center's teachers  
33 and parents or guardians of students enrolled at the existing  
34 attendance center voted in favor of the conversion. A vote  
35 in favor of conversion under this subsection requires the

1 support of a majority of the teachers employed at the school  
2 on the date of the vote and a majority of the parents or  
3 guardians voting whose children are enrolled at the school,  
4 provided that a majority of the parents or guardians eligible  
5 to vote participate in the ballot process. The state board,  
6 in consultation with the university of northern Iowa, shall  
7 establish procedures by rule for voting under this subsection.  
8 A parent or guardian voting in accordance with this subsection  
9 must be a resident of this state.

10 6. In reviewing and evaluating charter school applications,  
11 the state board and the university of northern Iowa shall  
12 employ procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with  
13 nationally recognized principles and standards for reviewing  
14 charter school applications. Each application review shall  
15 include thorough evaluation of the written application, an  
16 in-person interview with the founding group, and an opportunity  
17 in a public forum for local residents to learn about and  
18 provide input on each application.

19 7. Following review of a charter school application and  
20 completion of the process required under subsection 6, the  
21 state board or the university of northern Iowa shall do all of  
22 the following:

23 a. Approve a charter school application only if the founding  
24 group has demonstrated competence in each element of the  
25 approval criteria and if the founding group is likely to open  
26 and operate a successful charter school.

27 b. Make application decisions on documented evidence  
28 collected through the application review process.

29 c. Adhere to the policies and criteria that are transparent,  
30 based on merit, and avoid conflicts of interest or any  
31 appearance thereof.

32 8. The state board or the university of northern Iowa  
33 shall approve a charter school application if the application  
34 satisfies the requirements of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter. The  
35 state board or the university of northern Iowa shall approve or

1 deny a charter school application no later than seventy-five  
2 calendar days after the application is received. If the state  
3 board or the university of northern Iowa denies an application,  
4 the state board or the university of northern Iowa shall  
5 provide notice of denial to the founding group in writing  
6 within thirty days after the state board's or the university  
7 of northern Iowa's action. The notice shall specify the exact  
8 reasons for denial and provide documentation supporting those  
9 reasons. An approval decision may include, if appropriate,  
10 reasonable conditions that the founding group must meet before  
11 a charter school contract may be executed pursuant to section  
12 256E.6. An approved charter application shall not serve as a  
13 charter school contract.

14 9. A decision of the state board or the university of  
15 northern Iowa relating to an application under this section is  
16 not appealable.

17 10. An unsuccessful applicant under this section may  
18 subsequently reapply to the state board or the university of  
19 northern Iowa.

20 Sec. 14. Section 256E.4, subsection 4, paragraph ab, Code  
21 2026, is amended to read as follows:

22 *ab.* The specific statutes and administrative rules with  
23 which the charter school does not intend to comply. The  
24 department, in consultation with the university of northern  
25 Iowa, shall provide technical assistance to the applicant  
26 concerning statutes and administrative rules that may be waived  
27 under the charter school contract in order to facilitate the  
28 goals of the charter school.

29 Sec. 15. Section 256E.5, subsections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9,  
30 and 10, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

31 1. A founding group may apply to the state board or the  
32 university of northern Iowa for approval to establish and  
33 operate a charter school within the boundaries of the state  
34 that operates as a new attendance center independently from a  
35 public school district. The application shall demonstrate the

1 founding group's academic and operational vision and plans for  
2 the proposed charter school, demonstrate the founding group's  
3 capacity to execute the vision and plans, and provide the state  
4 board or the university of northern Iowa a clear basis for  
5 assessing the founding group's plans and capacity.

6 2. The state board, in consultation with the university  
7 of northern Iowa, shall adopt rules to establish appropriate  
8 application timelines and deadlines for the submission of  
9 charter school applications under this section.

10 3. The instructions for completing an application shall  
11 include or otherwise inform applicants of all of the following:

12 a. The performance framework adopted by the state board, in  
13 consultation with the university of northern Iowa, for charter  
14 school oversight and evaluation requirements in accordance with  
15 sections 256E.9 and 256E.10.

16 b. The criteria the state board or the university of  
17 northern Iowa will use in evaluating applications.

18 c. The requirements concerning the format and content  
19 essential for applicants to demonstrate the capacities  
20 necessary to establish and operate a successful charter school.

21 5. In reviewing and evaluating charter school applications,  
22 the state board and the university of northern Iowa shall  
23 employ procedures, practices, and criteria consistent with  
24 nationally recognized principles and standards for reviewing  
25 charter school applications. Each application review shall  
26 include thorough evaluation of the written application, an  
27 in-person interview with the applicant, and an opportunity in a  
28 public forum for local residents of the public school district  
29 within which the applicant proposes to locate the charter  
30 school to learn about and provide input on each application.

31 6. Following review of a charter school application and  
32 completion of the process required under subsection 5, the  
33 state board or the university of northern Iowa shall do all of  
34 the following:

35 a. Approve a charter school application only if the

1 applicant has demonstrated competence in each element of the  
2 state board's or the university of northern Iowa's published  
3 approval criteria and the applicant is likely to open and  
4 operate a successful charter school.

5     *b.* Make application decisions on documented evidence  
6 collected through the application review process.

7     *c.* Adhere to the policies and criteria that are transparent,  
8 based on merit, and avoid conflicts of interest or any  
9 appearance thereof.

10     8. The state board or the university of northern Iowa  
11 shall approve a charter school application if the application  
12 satisfies the requirements of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter. The  
13 state board or the university of northern Iowa shall approve or  
14 deny a charter school application no later than seventy-five  
15 calendar days after the application is received. If the  
16 state board or the university of northern Iowa denies an  
17 application, the state board or the university of northern Iowa  
18 shall provide notice of denial to the applicant in writing  
19 within thirty days after board action. The notice shall  
20 specify the exact reasons for denial and provide documentation  
21 supporting those reasons. An approval decision may include,  
22 if appropriate, reasonable conditions that the applicant must  
23 meet before a charter school contract may be executed pursuant  
24 to section 256E.6. An approved charter application shall not  
25 serve as a charter school contract.

26     9. An unsuccessful charter school applicant may  
27 subsequently reapply to the state board or the university of  
28 northern Iowa.

29     10. A decision of the state board or the university of  
30 northern Iowa relating to an application under this section is  
31 not appealable.

32     Sec. 16. Section 256E.5, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
33 following new subsection:

34     NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. The governing board of a charter school  
35 that is approved under this section shall be designated a local

1 education agency for the purpose of receiving federal funds for  
2 all attendance centers that are under the jurisdiction of the  
3 governing board.

4 Sec. 17. Section 256E.5, subsection 4, paragraph ab, Code  
5 2026, is amended to read as follows:

6 *ab.* The specific statutes and administrative rules with  
7 which the charter school does not intend to comply. The  
8 department, in consultation with the university of northern  
9 Iowa, shall provide technical assistance to the applicant  
10 concerning statutes and administrative rules that may be waived  
11 under the charter school contract in order to facilitate the  
12 goals of the charter school.

13 Sec. 18. Section 256E.6, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
14 follows:

15 **256E.6 Charter school contract.**

16 1. Within the later of thirty days following approval  
17 of a charter school application or upon the satisfaction of  
18 all reasonable conditions imposed on the applicant in the  
19 charter school approval, if any, an enforceable and renewable  
20 charter school contract shall be executed between the founding  
21 group and the state board or the university of northern Iowa,  
22 as applicable, setting forth the academic and operational  
23 performance expectations and measures by which the charter  
24 school will be evaluated pursuant to sections 256E.9 and  
25 256E.10 and the other rights and duties of the parties.

26 2. An initial charter school contract shall be granted for  
27 a term of five school budget years, commencing with the school  
28 budget year in which the charter school opens. The charter  
29 school contract shall include the beginning and ending dates  
30 of the charter school contract term. An approved charter  
31 school ~~may delay its opening for a period of time not to exceed~~  
32 ~~one school year in order to plan and prepare for the charter~~  
33 ~~school's opening~~ shall open on the first day of the school year  
34 that is two school years immediately subsequent to the school  
35 year in which the charter school contract is executed under

1 subsection 1; provided, however, that the approved charter  
2 school may open on the first day of the school year that is  
3 immediately subsequent to the school year in which the charter  
4 school contract is executed under subsection 1 if the approved  
5 charter school demonstrates adequate preparation to the state  
6 board or the university of northern Iowa. If the charter  
7 school requires an opening delay of more than ~~one school year~~  
8 two school years immediately subsequent to the school year in  
9 which the charter school contract is executed under subsection  
10 1, the charter school may request an extension from the state  
11 board or the university of northern Iowa.

12 3. Each charter school contract shall be signed by  
13 the president of the state board or the president of the  
14 university of northern Iowa, as applicable, and the president  
15 or appropriate officer of the governing body of the founding  
16 group.

17 4. Within fifteen days of the execution of a charter school  
18 contract entered into by the state board or the university of  
19 northern Iowa, the state board or the university of northern  
20 Iowa shall notify the department and the department of  
21 management of the name of the charter school and any applicable  
22 education service provider, the proposed location of the  
23 charter school, and the charter school's first year projected  
24 enrollment.

25 5. A charter school approved under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter  
26 shall not commence operations without a valid charter school  
27 contract executed in accordance with this section and approved  
28 in an open session of the state board or by the university of  
29 northern Iowa.

30 6. The contract may provide for requirements or conditions  
31 to govern and monitor the start-up progress of an approved  
32 charter school ~~prior to the opening of the charter school~~  
33 from the date the charter school contract is executed  
34 through the date the charter school opens, including but not  
35 limited to conditions to ensure that the charter school meets

1 all building, health, safety, insurance, and other legal  
2 requirements.

3 7. A charter school contract may be amended to govern  
4 multiple charter schools operated by the same applicant and  
5 approved by the state board or the university of northern Iowa.  
6 However, each charter school that is part of a charter school  
7 contract shall be separate and distinct from any other charter  
8 school governed by the contract.

9 Sec. 19. Section 256E.7, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
10 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

11 In order to fulfill the charter school's public purpose, a  
12 charter school established under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter shall  
13 be organized as a nonprofit education organization and shall  
14 have all the powers necessary for carrying out the terms of  
15 the charter school contract including but not limited to the  
16 following, as applicable:

17 Sec. 20. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, unnumbered paragraph  
18 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

19 A charter school established under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter  
20 is exempt from all state statutes and rules and any local rule,  
21 regulation, or policy, applicable to a noncharter school,  
22 except that the charter school shall do all of the following:

23 Sec. 21. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraphs g, i, and  
24 w, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

25 *g.* Be subject to the same financial audits, audit  
26 procedures, and audit requirements as a school district. The  
27 audit shall be consistent with the requirements of sections  
28 11.6, 11.14, 11.19, and 279.29, and section 256.9, subsection  
29 20, except to the extent deviations are necessary because of  
30 the program at the school. The department, the university  
31 of northern Iowa, the auditor of state, or the legislative  
32 services agency may conduct financial, program, or compliance  
33 audits.

34 *i.* Provide instruction for at least the number of days  
35 or hours required by section 279.10, subsection 1, unless

1 specifically waived by the state board or the university of  
2 northern Iowa as part of the application process.

3 w. Comply with the requirements of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.  
4 Sec. 22. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, paragraph h,  
5 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 Be subject to and comply with the requirements of section  
8 256.7, subsection 21, and the educational standards of section  
9 256.11, unless specifically waived by the state board or the  
10 university of northern Iowa during the application process;  
11 provided, however, that the state board or the university of  
12 northern Iowa shall not waive any of the following educational  
13 standards:

14 Sec. 23. Section 256E.7, subsection 9, Code 2026, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 9. Individuals compensated by an education service provider  
17 are prohibited from serving as a voting member on the governing  
18 board of any charter school unless the state board or the  
19 university of northern Iowa waives such prohibition.

20 Sec. 24. Section 256E.8, subsections 1 and 4, Code 2026, are  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 1. Each student enrolled in a charter school established  
23 under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter shall be counted, for state  
24 school foundation purposes, in the student's district of  
25 residence pursuant to section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph  
26 "a", subparagraph (9), including any applicable amounts under  
27 section 256B.9. For purposes of this section, residence means  
28 a residence under section 282.1.

29 4. If necessary, and pursuant to rules adopted by the  
30 state board, in consultation with the university of northern  
31 Iowa, funding amounts required under this section for the  
32 first school year of a new charter school shall be based on  
33 enrollment estimates for the charter school included in the  
34 charter school contract. The department, in consultation  
35 with the university of northern Iowa, shall adopt rules to

1 establish a process for determining estimated enrollments for  
2 charter school funding purposes in school years after the first  
3 school year of a charter school. Amounts paid using estimated  
4 enrollments shall be reconciled during subsequent payments  
5 based on actual enrollment of the charter school during each  
6 school year.

7 Sec. 25. Section 256E.9, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
8 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

9 The performance provisions within the charter school  
10 contract shall be based on a performance framework adopted  
11 by the state board, in consultation with the university  
12 of northern Iowa, that clearly sets forth the academic and  
13 operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that  
14 will guide the evaluation of the charter school by the state  
15 board or the university of northern Iowa, without compromising  
16 individual student privacy. The performance framework shall  
17 include but is not limited to indicators, measures, and metrics  
18 for all of the following:

19 Sec. 26. Section 256E.9, subsections 2 and 5, Code 2026, are  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 2. Annual performance targets shall be agreed upon between  
22 each charter school and the state board, in consultation  
23 with the university of northern Iowa, if applicable. Such  
24 performance targets shall be contained in the charter school  
25 contract and shall be designed to help each charter school  
26 meet applicable federal, state, and local standards. The  
27 performance targets contained in the charter school contract  
28 may be amended by mutual agreement after the charter school is  
29 operating and has collected initial achievement data for the  
30 charter school's students.

31 5. Each charter school established under this ~~chapter~~  
32 subchapter shall be evaluated and graded by the department  
33 pursuant to the attendance center performance ranking system  
34 developed and adopted by the department.

35 Sec. 27. Section 256E.10, subsections 1, 2, 6, 8, 12, and

1 13, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

2 1. The state board and the university of northern Iowa shall  
3 monitor the performance and compliance of each charter school  
4 ~~the state board approves~~ approved by the state board or the  
5 university of northern Iowa, including collecting and analyzing  
6 data according to the charter school contract in order to meet  
7 the requirements of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter. Such oversight  
8 may include inquiries and investigation of the charter school  
9 so long as the activities are consistent with the intent of  
10 this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, adhere to the terms of the charter  
11 school contract, and do not unduly inhibit the autonomy granted  
12 to the charter school. Any performance report resulting from  
13 an inquiry or investigation under this section shall, upon  
14 conclusion of such action, be included in the annual report  
15 required under section 256E.12.

16 2. As part of the charter school contract, the charter  
17 school shall submit an annual report to the state board or the  
18 university of northern Iowa to assist the state board or the  
19 university of northern Iowa in evaluating the charter school's  
20 performance and compliance with the performance framework.

21 6. Annually, by June 30, the state board or the university  
22 of northern Iowa, as applicable, shall issue a charter school  
23 performance report and charter school contract renewal  
24 application guidance to each charter school whose charter  
25 school contract will expire during the following school budget  
26 year. The performance report shall summarize the charter  
27 school's performance record to date based on the data required  
28 by the charter school contract and by this ~~chapter~~ subchapter  
29 and shall identify concerns that may jeopardize renewal of the  
30 charter school contract if not remedied. The charter school  
31 shall have sixty days to respond to the performance report and  
32 submit any corrections or clarifications for the report.

33 8. No later than October 1, the governing board of a charter  
34 school seeking renewal shall submit a renewal application to  
35 the state board or the university of northern Iowa pursuant to

1 the renewal application guidance. A renewal or denial shall be  
2 approved by resolution of the state board, or by the university  
3 of northern Iowa, within sixty days following the filing of the  
4 renewal application.

5 12. A decision to revoke or to not renew a charter school  
6 contract shall be by resolution of the state board, or by  
7 the university of northern Iowa, and shall clearly state the  
8 reasons for the revocation or nonrenewal.

9 13. If a charter school has been evaluated and graded to  
10 be in the exceptional category, or the highest rated category  
11 under a succeeding evaluation system, under the evaluation and  
12 grading required under section 256E.9, subsection 5, for the  
13 immediately preceding two school years, and the charter school  
14 is in compliance with the current charter school contract and  
15 all provisions of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, the charter school's  
16 application renewal under subsection 8 shall be renewed  
17 for an additional period of time equal to the length of the  
18 original charter school contract or the most recent renewal  
19 of the contract, whichever is longer, unless the state board  
20 or the university of northern Iowa provides written notice to  
21 the charter school of the state board's or the university of  
22 northern Iowa's rejection of the expedited renewal within sixty  
23 days of the filing of the application. The state board or  
24 the university of northern Iowa shall not reject an expedited  
25 renewal application unless the state board or the university of  
26 northern Iowa finds exceptional circumstances for the rejection  
27 or seeks material changes to the charter school contract.

28 Sec. 28. Section 256E.10, subsection 9, unnumbered  
29 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

30 Unless eligible for expedited renewal under subsection 13,  
31 when reviewing a charter school contract renewal application,  
32 the state board or the university of northern Iowa shall do all  
33 of the following:

34 Sec. 29. Section 256E.10, subsection 10, unnumbered  
35 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

1 A charter school contract may be revoked at any time or not  
2 renewed if the state board or the university of northern Iowa  
3 determines that the charter school did any of the following:

4 Sec. 30. Section 256E.10, subsection 10, paragraph a, Code  
5 2026, is amended to read as follows:

6 a. Committed a material violation of any of the terms,  
7 conditions, standards, or procedures required under the charter  
8 school contract or this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

9 Sec. 31. Section 256E.10, subsection 11, unnumbered  
10 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

11 The state board, in consultation with the university of  
12 northern Iowa, shall develop charter school contract revocation  
13 and nonrenewal standards and procedures that do all of the  
14 following:

15 Sec. 32. Section 256E.11, subsection 1, Code 2026, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 1. Prior to any charter school closure decision, the state  
18 board, in consultation with the university of northern Iowa,  
19 shall develop a charter school closure protocol to ensure  
20 timely notice to parents and guardians, provide for the orderly  
21 transition of students and student records to new schools, and  
22 to provide proper disposition of school funds, property, and  
23 assets in accordance with the requirements of this ~~chapter~~  
24 subchapter. The protocol shall specify required actions and  
25 timelines and identify responsible parties for each such  
26 action.

27 Sec. 33. Section 256E.12, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 **256E.12 Reports.**

30 1. Each charter school shall prepare and file an annual  
31 report with the department. The department, in consultation  
32 with the university of northern Iowa, shall prescribe by rule  
33 the required contents of the report, but each such report shall  
34 include information regarding student achievement, including  
35 annual academic growth and proficiency, graduation rates,

1 and financial performance and sustainability. The reports  
2 are public records and the examination, publication, and  
3 dissemination of the reports are governed by the provisions of  
4 chapter 22.

5 2. The state board, in consultation with the university of  
6 northern Iowa, shall prepare and file with the general assembly  
7 by December 1, annually, a comprehensive report with findings  
8 and recommendations relating to the charter school program in  
9 the state and whether the charter school program under this  
10 ~~chapter~~ subchapter is meeting the goals and purposes of the  
11 program. The report also shall contain, for each charter  
12 school, a copy of the charter school's mission statement,  
13 attendance statistics and dropout rate, aggregate assessment  
14 test scores, projections of financial stability, and the number  
15 and qualifications of teachers and administrators.

16 Sec. 34. Section 256F.1, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 1. Charter schools ~~and innovation zone schools~~ shall be part  
19 of the state's program of public education.

20 Sec. 35. Section 256F.1, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph  
21 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

22 The purpose of a charter school ~~or an innovation zone school~~  
23 established pursuant to this ~~chapter~~ subchapter shall be to  
24 accomplish the following:

25 Sec. 36. Section 256F.1, subsection 4, Code 2026, is amended  
26 by striking the subsection.

27 Sec. 37. Section 256F.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026,  
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 As used in this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, unless the context  
30 otherwise requires:

31 Sec. 38. Section 256F.2, subsections 1 and 3, Code 2026, are  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 1. "*Advisory council*" means a council appointed by the  
34 school board of directors of a charter school ~~or an innovation~~  
35 ~~zone consortium~~ pursuant to section 256F.5, subsection 4.

1 3. "Charter school" means a charter school established in  
2 accordance with this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

3 Sec. 39. Section 256F.2, subsections 5 and 6, Code 2026, are  
4 amended by striking the subsections.

5 Sec. 40. Section 256F.3, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 **256F.3 Application Monitoring — no new approvals — adoption**  
8 **of rules.**

9 1. The department shall monitor the effectiveness of  
10 charter schools ~~and innovation zone schools~~ and shall implement  
11 the applicable provisions of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

12 ~~2. a. To receive approval to establish a charter school~~  
13 ~~in accordance with this chapter, the principal, teachers,~~  
14 ~~or parents or guardians of students at an existing public~~  
15 ~~school shall submit an application to the school board to~~  
16 ~~convert an existing attendance center to a charter school.~~  
17 ~~An attendance center shall not enter into a charter school~~  
18 ~~contract with a school district under this chapter unless the~~  
19 ~~attendance center is located within the school district. The~~  
20 ~~application shall demonstrate the support of at least fifty~~  
21 ~~percent of the teachers employed at the school on the date of~~  
22 ~~the submission of the application and fifty percent of the~~  
23 ~~parents or guardians voting whose children are enrolled at the~~  
24 ~~school, provided that a majority of the parents or guardians~~  
25 ~~eligible to vote participate in the ballot process, according~~  
26 ~~to procedures established by rules of the state board.~~

27 ~~b. To receive approval to establish an innovation zone~~  
28 ~~school in accordance with this chapter, an innovation zone~~  
29 ~~consortium shall submit an application to the state board~~  
30 ~~which demonstrates the support of at least fifty percent of~~  
31 ~~the teachers employed at each proposed innovation zone school~~  
32 ~~on the date of the submission of the application and fifty~~  
33 ~~percent of the parents or guardians voting whose children are~~  
34 ~~enrolled at each proposed innovation zone school, provided~~  
35 ~~that a majority of the parents or guardians eligible to vote~~

~~1 participate in the ballot process, according to procedures  
2 established by rules of the state board.~~

~~3 c. A parent or guardian voting in accordance with this  
4 subsection must be a resident of this state.~~

~~5 3. A school board shall receive and review all applications  
6 for converting an existing building or creating a new building  
7 for a charter school. Applications received on or before  
8 October 1 of a calendar year shall be considered for charter  
9 schools to be established at the beginning of the school  
10 district's next school year or at a time agreed to by the  
11 applicant and the school board. However, a school board may  
12 receive and consider applications after October 1 at its  
13 discretion.~~

~~14 4. A school board shall by a majority vote approve or  
15 deny an application relating to a charter school no later  
16 than sixty calendar days after the application is received.  
17 An application approved by a school board and subsequently  
18 approved by the state board pursuant to subsection 6 shall  
19 constitute, at a minimum, an agreement between the school board  
20 and the charter school for the operation of the charter school.  
21 A school board that denies an application for a conversion  
22 to a charter school shall provide notice of denial to the  
23 applicant in writing within thirty days after board action.  
24 The notice shall specify the exact reasons for denial and  
25 provide documentation supporting those reasons.~~

~~26 5. An applicant may appeal school board denial of the  
27 applicant's charter school application to the state board  
28 in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 290.  
29 The state board shall affirm, modify, or reverse the school  
30 board's decision on the basis of the information provided in  
31 the application indicating the ability and willingness of the  
32 proposed charter school to meet the requirements of section  
33 256F.1, subsection 3, and section 256F.4.~~

~~34 6. Upon approval of an application for the proposed  
35 establishment of a charter school, the school board shall~~

1 ~~submit an application for approval to establish the charter~~  
2 ~~school to the state board in accordance with section 256F.5.~~  
3 ~~7. An application submitted to the state board pursuant to~~  
4 ~~subsection 2, paragraph "b", or subsection 6 shall set forth the~~  
5 ~~manner in which the charter school or innovation zone school~~  
6 ~~will provide special instruction, in accordance with section~~  
7 ~~280.4, to students who are English learners. The application~~  
8 ~~shall set forth the manner in which the charter school or~~  
9 ~~innovation zone school will comply with federal and state laws~~  
10 ~~and regulations relating to the federal National School Lunch~~  
11 ~~Act and the federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C.~~  
12 ~~§1751-1785, and chapter 283A. The state board shall approve~~  
13 ~~only those applications that meet the requirements specified in~~  
14 ~~section 256F.1, subsection 3, and sections 256F.4 and 256F.5.~~  
15 ~~The state board may deny an application if the state board~~  
16 ~~deems that approval of the application is not in the best~~  
17 ~~interest of the affected students.~~  
18 ~~8. The state board shall approve not more than ten~~  
19 ~~innovation zone consortium applications.~~  
20 ~~9. 2. The state board shall not approve a new charter~~  
21 ~~school under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter on or after July 1, 2021.~~  
22 ~~10. 3. The state board shall adopt rules in accordance with~~  
23 ~~chapter 17A for the implementation of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.~~  
24 ~~If federal rules or regulations relating to the distribution~~  
25 ~~or utilization of federal funds allocated to the department~~  
26 ~~pursuant to this section are adopted that are inconsistent~~  
27 ~~with the provisions of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, the state~~  
28 ~~board shall adopt rules to comply with the requirements of the~~  
29 ~~federal rules or regulations. The state board shall identify~~  
30 ~~inconsistencies between federal and state rules and regulations~~  
31 ~~as provided in this subsection and shall submit recommendations~~  
32 ~~for legislative action to the chairpersons and ranking members~~  
33 ~~of the senate and house standing committees on education at the~~  
34 ~~next meeting of the general assembly.~~  
35 ~~Sec. 41. Section 256F.4, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended~~

1 by striking the subsection.

2 Sec. 42. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, unnumbered paragraph  
3 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

4 Although a charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ may  
5 elect to comply with one or more provisions of statute or  
6 administrative rule, a charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~  
7 is exempt from all statutes and rules applicable to a school,  
8 a school board, or a school district, except that the charter  
9 school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall do all of the following:

10 Sec. 43. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, paragraphs a and h,  
11 Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

12 a. Meet all applicable federal, state, and local health and  
13 safety requirements and laws prohibiting discrimination on the  
14 basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, national  
15 origin, religion, ancestry, or disability. A charter school  
16 ~~or innovation zone school~~ located within the boundaries of a  
17 school district subject to court-ordered desegregation at the  
18 time the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ application  
19 is approved shall be subject to the desegregation order unless  
20 otherwise specifically provided for in the desegregation order.

21 h. Be subject to and comply with chapter 284 relating to  
22 the student achievement and teacher quality program. A charter  
23 school ~~or innovation zone school~~ that complies with chapter  
24 284 shall receive state moneys or be eligible to receive state  
25 moneys calculated as provided in section 257.10, subsections  
26 9 and 10, and section 257.37A as if it did not operate under a  
27 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ contract.

28 Sec. 44. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended  
29 by adding the following new paragraph:

30 NEW PARAGRAPH. v. Be subject to and comply with the  
31 requirements of section 256E.9 related to the incorporation  
32 into the charter school contract of a performance framework  
33 that is used by the state board to evaluate the charter school  
34 in the same manner as a charter school established under  
35 subchapter I.

1     Sec. 45. Section 256F.4, subsections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8,  
2 Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

3     3. A charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall not  
4 discriminate in its student admissions policies or practices  
5 on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures  
6 of achievement or aptitude, or status as a person with a  
7 disability. However, a charter school ~~or innovation zone~~  
8 ~~school~~ may limit admission to students who are within a  
9 particular range of ages or grade levels or on any other  
10 basis that would be legal if initiated by a school district.  
11 Enrollment priority shall be given to the siblings of students  
12 enrolled in a charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~.

13     4. A charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall  
14 enroll an eligible resident student who submits a timely  
15 application unless the number of applications exceeds the  
16 capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In  
17 this case, students must be accepted by lot. A charter school  
18 ~~or innovation zone school~~ may enroll an eligible nonresident  
19 student who submits a timely application in accordance with  
20 the student admission policy established pursuant to section  
21 256F.5, subsection 1. If the charter school ~~or innovation zone~~  
22 ~~school~~ enrolls an eligible nonresident student, the charter  
23 school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall notify the school  
24 district of residence and the sending district not later than  
25 March 1 of the preceding school year. Transportation for the  
26 student shall be in accordance with section 282.18, subsection  
27 10. The sending district shall make payments to the charter  
28 school ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ in the manner required  
29 under section 282.18, subsection 7. ~~If the nonresident pupil~~  
30 ~~is also an eligible pupil under section 261E.6, the innovation~~  
31 ~~zone consortium shall pay the tuition reimbursement amount to~~  
32 ~~an eligible postsecondary institution as provided in section~~  
33 ~~261E.7.~~

34     5. A charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall provide  
35 instruction for at least the number of days or hours required

1 by section 279.10, subsection 1.

2 6. Notwithstanding subsection 2, a charter school ~~or~~  
3 ~~innovation zone school~~ shall meet the requirements of section  
4 256.7, subsection 21.

5 7. ~~a.~~ A charter school shall be considered a part of the  
6 school district in which it is located for purposes of state  
7 school foundation aid pursuant to chapter 257.

8 ~~b. Students enrolled in an innovation zone school shall~~  
9 ~~be counted, for state school foundation aid purposes, in the~~  
10 ~~student's district of residence.~~

11 8. A charter school ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ may enter  
12 into contracts in accordance with chapter 26.

13 Sec. 46. Section 256F.5, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2026,  
14 is amended to read as follows:

15 An application to the state board for the approval of a  
16 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall include but  
17 shall not be limited to a description of the following:

18 Sec. 47. Section 256F.5, subsections 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10,  
19 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17, Code 2026, are amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 1. The method for admission to the charter school ~~or~~  
22 ~~innovation zone school~~.

23 2. The mission, purpose, innovation, and specialized focus  
24 of the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~.

25 4. The method for appointing or forming an advisory  
26 council for the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~.  
27 The membership of an advisory council appointed or formed in  
28 accordance with this ~~chapter~~ subchapter shall not include more  
29 than one member of a participating school board.

30 6. The charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ governance  
31 and bylaws.

32 7. The financial plan for the operation of the charter  
33 school ~~or innovation zone school~~ including, at a minimum,  
34 a listing of the support services the school district ~~or~~  
35 ~~innovation zone consortium~~ will provide, and the charter

1 ~~school or innovation zone~~ school's revenues, budgets, and  
2 expenditures.

3 10. The organization of the charter school ~~or innovation~~  
4 ~~zone school~~ in terms of ages of students or grades to be taught  
5 along with an estimate of the total enrollment of the charter  
6 school ~~or innovation zone school~~.

7 12. A statement indicating how the charter school ~~or~~  
8 ~~innovation zone school~~ will meet the requirements of section  
9 256F.1, as applicable; section 256F.4, subsection 2, paragraph  
10 "a"; and section 256F.4, subsection 3.

11 13. Assurance of the assumption of liability by the charter  
12 school ~~or the innovation zone consortium for the innovation~~  
13 ~~zone school~~.

14 14. The types and amounts of insurance coverage to be  
15 obtained by the charter school ~~or innovation zone consortium~~  
16 ~~for the innovation zone school~~.

17 15. A plan of operation to be implemented if the charter  
18 school ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ revokes or fails to renew  
19 its contract.

20 16. The means, costs, and plan for providing transportation  
21 for students enrolled in the charter school ~~or innovation zone~~  
22 ~~school~~.

23 17. The specific statutes, administrative rules, and school  
24 board policies with which the charter school ~~or innovation zone~~  
25 ~~school~~ does not intend to comply.

26 Sec. 48. Section 256F.6, subsections 1 and 3, Code 2026, are  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 1. a. An approved charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~  
29 application shall constitute an agreement, the terms of which  
30 shall, at a minimum, be the terms of a ~~four-year~~ five-year  
31 enforceable, renewable contract between a school board, ~~or the~~  
32 ~~boards participating in an innovation zone consortium,~~ and the  
33 state board. ~~The contract shall include an operating agreement~~  
34 ~~for the operation of the charter school or innovation zone~~  
35 ~~school~~. The terms of the contract may be revised at any time

1 with the approval of both the state board and the school board  
2 ~~or the boards participating in the innovation zone consortium,~~  
3 whether or not the stated provisions of the contract are being  
4 fulfilled. The contract must include all of the following:

5 (1) An operating agreement for the operation of the charter  
6 school.

7 (2) A performance framework as required under section  
8 256F.4, subsection 2, paragraph "v".

9 b. A contract may be renewed by agreement of the school  
10 board ~~or the boards participating in an innovation zone~~  
11 ~~consortium, as applicable,~~ and the state board.

12 c. The charter school ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ shall  
13 provide parents and guardians of students enrolled in the  
14 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ with a copy of the  
15 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ application approved  
16 pursuant to section 256F.5.

17 3. The state board of education shall provide by rule for  
18 the ongoing review of each party's compliance with a contract  
19 entered into in accordance with this ~~chapter~~ subchapter.

20 Sec. 49. Section 256F.7, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
21 follows:

22 **256F.7 Employment and related matters.**

23 1. A charter school ~~or the boards participating in an~~  
24 ~~innovation zone consortium~~ shall employ or contract with  
25 necessary teachers and administrators, as defined in section  
26 256.145, who hold a valid license with an endorsement for the  
27 type of service for which the teacher or administrator is  
28 employed.

29 2. The school board ~~or innovation zone consortium, as~~  
30 ~~specified in the application,~~ in consultation with the advisory  
31 council, shall decide matters related to the operation of the  
32 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~, including budgeting,  
33 curriculum, and operating procedures.

34 3. ~~a.~~ Employees of a charter school shall be considered  
35 employees of the school district.

1 ~~b. Employees of an innovation zone school shall be~~  
2 ~~considered employees of a board participating in the innovation~~  
3 ~~zone consortium.~~

4 Sec. 50. Section 256F.8, subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, Code  
5 2026, are amended to read as follows:

6 1. A contract for the establishment of a charter school ~~or~~  
7 ~~innovation zone school~~ may be revoked by the state board, or  
8 the school board that established the charter school, ~~or the~~  
9 ~~innovation zone consortium that established the innovation zone~~  
10 ~~school~~ if the appropriate board ~~or consortium~~ determines that  
11 one or more of the following occurred:

12 a. Failure of the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~  
13 to abide by and meet the provisions set forth in the contract,  
14 including educational goals.

15 b. Failure of the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~  
16 to comply with all applicable law.

17 c. Failure of the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~  
18 to meet generally accepted public sector accounting principles.

19 d. The existence of one or more other grounds for revocation  
20 as specified in the contract.

21 e. Assessment of student progress, which is administered  
22 in accordance with state and locally determined indicators  
23 established pursuant to rules adopted by the state board,  
24 does not show improvement in student progress over that  
25 which existed in the same student population prior to the  
26 establishment of the charter school ~~or the innovation zone~~  
27 ~~school~~.

28 2. The decision by a school board ~~or an innovation zone~~  
29 ~~consortium~~ to revoke or to fail to take action to renew a  
30 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ contract is subject to  
31 appeal under procedures set forth in chapter 290.

32 3. A school board ~~or a board participating in an innovation~~  
33 ~~zone consortium~~ that is considering revocation or nonrenewal  
34 of a charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ contract shall  
35 notify the advisory council, the parents or guardians of the

1 students enrolled in the charter school ~~or innovation zone~~  
2 ~~school~~, and the teachers and administrators employed by the  
3 charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~, sixty days prior to  
4 revoking or the date by which the contract must be renewed, but  
5 not later than the last day of classes in the school year.

6 4. If the state board determines that a charter school ~~or~~  
7 ~~innovation zone school~~ is in substantial violation of the terms  
8 of the contract, the state board shall notify the school board  
9 ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ and the advisory council of its  
10 intention to revoke the contract at least sixty days prior to  
11 revoking a contract and the school board ~~or the school boards~~  
12 ~~participating in the innovation zone consortium~~ shall assume  
13 oversight authority, operational authority, or both oversight  
14 and operational authority. The notice shall state the  
15 grounds for the proposed action in writing and in reasonable  
16 detail. The school board ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ may  
17 request in writing an informal hearing before the state board  
18 within fourteen days of receiving notice of revocation of  
19 the contract. Upon receiving a timely written request for a  
20 hearing, the state board shall give reasonable notice to the  
21 school board ~~or innovation zone consortium~~ of the hearing  
22 date. The state board shall conduct an informal hearing before  
23 taking final action. Final action to revoke a contract shall  
24 be taken in a manner least disruptive to students enrolled in  
25 the charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~. The state board  
26 shall take final action to revoke or approve continuation of  
27 a contract by the last day of classes in the school year. If  
28 the final action to revoke a contract under this section occurs  
29 prior to the last day of classes in the school year, a charter  
30 school ~~or innovation zone school~~ student may enroll in the  
31 resident district.

32 6. A school board revoking a contract or a school board,  
33 ~~innovation zone consortium~~, or advisory council that fails to  
34 renew a contract under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter is not liable  
35 for that action to the charter school ~~or innovation zone~~

1 ~~school~~, a student enrolled in the charter school ~~or innovation~~  
2 ~~zone school~~ or the student's parent or guardian, or any other  
3 person.

4 Sec. 51. Section 256F.9, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 **256F.9 Procedures after revocation — student enrollment.**

7 If a charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ contract  
8 is revoked in accordance with this ~~chapter~~ subchapter, a  
9 nonresident student who attended the school, and any siblings  
10 of the student may submit an application to another school  
11 district according to section 282.18. Applications and notices  
12 required by section 282.18 shall be processed and provided in a  
13 prompt manner.

14 Sec. 52. Section 256F.10, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 **256F.10 Reports.**

17 1. A charter school ~~or innovation zone school~~ shall  
18 report at least annually to the school board ~~or innovation~~  
19 ~~zone consortium~~, advisory council, and the state board the  
20 information required by the school board ~~or innovation zone~~  
21 ~~consortium~~, advisory council, or the state board. The reports  
22 are public records subject to chapter 22.

23 2. Not later than December 1 annually, the state board shall  
24 submit a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations  
25 to the general assembly. The report shall evaluate the state's  
26 charter school ~~and innovation zone school~~ programs generally,  
27 including but not limited to an evaluation of whether the  
28 charter schools ~~and innovation zone schools~~ are fulfilling the  
29 purposes set forth in section 256F.4, subsection 2. The report  
30 also shall contain, for each charter school ~~or innovation~~  
31 ~~zone school~~, a copy of the charter ~~school or innovation~~  
32 ~~zone~~ school's mission statement, attendance statistics and  
33 dropout rate, aggregate assessment test scores, projections of  
34 financial stability, the number and qualifications of teachers  
35 and administrators, and number of and comments on supervisory

1 visits by the department of education.

2 Sec. 53. Section 256F.12, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 **256F.12 Operation of existing charter schools.**

5 Charter schools established under this ~~chapter~~ subchapter  
6 prior to July 1, 2021, shall continue to operate under and be  
7 subject to the requirements of this ~~chapter~~ subchapter and  
8 shall not be subject to ~~chapter 256E~~ subchapter I.

9 Sec. 54. Section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph a,  
10 subparagraph (9), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

11 (9) Resident pupils enrolled in a charter school under  
12 chapter 256E ~~or 256F~~.

13 Sec. 55. Section 280.36, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 3. The board of directors of a school district or the  
16 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school  
17 may enter into an agreement with another school district,  
18 accredited nonpublic school, or ~~charter school, or innovation~~  
19 ~~zone school~~ to create a multidisciplinary school safety  
20 assessment team that shall coordinate resources among the  
21 schools and assess and intervene when a student enrolled in  
22 either school exhibits behavior that may pose a threat to  
23 the safety of either school, employees of either school, or  
24 students enrolled in either school.

25 Sec. 56. Section 282.9, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
26 to read as follows:

27 1. Notwithstanding sections 256E.7, ~~256F.4~~ 256E.23,  
28 275.55A, and 282.18, or any other provision to the contrary,  
29 prior to knowingly enrolling an individual who is required  
30 to register as a sex offender under chapter 692A, but who is  
31 otherwise eligible to enroll in a public school, the board of  
32 directors of a school district shall determine the educational  
33 placement of the individual. Upon receipt of notice that a  
34 student who is enrolled in the district is required to register  
35 as a sex offender under chapter 692A, the board shall determine

1 the educational placement of the student. The tentative agenda  
2 for the meeting of the board of directors at which the board  
3 will consider such enrollment or educational placement shall  
4 specifically state that the board is considering the enrollment  
5 or educational placement of an individual who is required  
6 to register as a sex offender under chapter 692A. If the  
7 individual is denied enrollment in a school district under this  
8 section, the school district of residence shall provide the  
9 individual with educational services in an alternative setting.

10 Sec. 57. Section 282.18, subsection 11, paragraph a,  
11 subparagraph (8), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

12 (8) If the pupil participates in open enrollment because  
13 of circumstances that meet the definition of good cause. For  
14 purposes of this section, "*good cause*" means a change in a  
15 child's residence due to a change in family residence, a change  
16 in a child's residence from the residence of one parent or  
17 guardian to the residence of a different parent or guardian, a  
18 change in the state in which the family residence is located,  
19 a change in a child's parents' marital status, a guardianship  
20 or custody proceeding, placement in foster care, adoption,  
21 participation in a foreign exchange program, initial placement  
22 of a prekindergarten student in a special education program  
23 requiring specially designed instruction, or participation in  
24 a substance use disorder or mental health treatment program,  
25 a change in the status of a child's resident district such  
26 as removal of accreditation by the state board, surrender of  
27 accreditation, or permanent closure of a nonpublic school,  
28 revocation of a charter school contract as provided in section  
29 256E.10 or ~~256F.8~~ 256E.27, the failure of negotiations for a  
30 whole grade sharing, reorganization, dissolution agreement, or  
31 the rejection of a current whole grade sharing agreement, or  
32 reorganization plan.

33 Sec. 58. Section 297.24, subsection 3, paragraph d, Code  
34 2026, is amended by striking the paragraph.

35 Sec. 59. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE — TRANSFERS — NEW

1 SUBCHAPTERS.

2 1. The Code editor is directed to make the following  
3 transfers:

- 4 a. Section 256F.1 to section 256E.20.
- 5 b. Section 256F.2 to section 256E.21.
- 6 c. Section 256F.3 to section 256E.22.
- 7 d. Section 256F.4 to section 256E.23.
- 8 e. Section 256F.5 to section 256E.24.
- 9 f. Section 256F.6 to section 256E.25.
- 10 g. Section 256F.7 to section 256E.26.
- 11 h. Section 256F.8 to section 256E.27.
- 12 i. Section 256F.9 to section 256E.28.
- 13 j. Section 256F.10 to section 256E.29.
- 14 k. Section 256F.12 to section 256E.30.

15 2. The Code editor is directed to create two new subchapters  
16 in chapter 256E as follows:

17 a. Subchapter I shall be entitled "Charter Schools" and  
18 include sections 256E.1 through 256E.13.

19 b. Subchapter II shall be entitled "Legacy Charter Schools"  
20 and include sections 256E.20 through 256E.30.

21 3. The Code editor is directed to make changes in any Code  
22 sections or other noncodified enactments amended or enacted  
23 by any other Act to correspond with the changes made in this  
24 Act if there appears to be no doubt as to the proper method of  
25 making the changes and the changes would not be contrary to or  
26 inconsistent with the purposes of this Act or any other Act.

27 Sec. 60. APPLICABILITY. The following applies to charter  
28 school contracts that are executed or renewed pursuant to  
29 chapter 256E on or after the effective date of this division  
30 of this Act:

31 The section of this division of this Act amending section  
32 256E.6.

33 Sec. 61. APPLICABILITY. The following apply to charter  
34 school contracts entered into under section 256F.6 between a  
35 school board and the state board of education that are renewed

1 on or after the effective date of this division of this Act:

2 1. The section of this division of this Act amending  
3 section 256F.4, subsection 2, by requiring charter schools to  
4 incorporate a performance framework into the charter school  
5 contract.

6 2. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
7 256F.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a".

8 DIVISION II

9 FUNDING AND AREA EDUCATION AGENCY SERVICES

10 Sec. 62. Section 256E.8, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
11 2026, is amended to read as follows:

12 a. The charter school in which the student is enrolled  
13 shall receive under paragraph "c" an amount equal to the sum  
14 of the regular program state cost per pupil for the budget  
15 year plus the teacher leadership supplement state cost per  
16 pupil, the teacher salary supplement state cost per pupil, the  
17 professional development supplement state cost per pupil, and  
18 the early intervention supplement state cost per pupil for  
19 the budget year as provided in section 257.9 plus any moneys  
20 that would be due to the school district of residence for the  
21 student as a result of the non-English speaking weighting under  
22 section 280.4, subsection 3, for the budget year multiplied by  
23 the state cost per pupil for the budget year. If a student  
24 is an eligible pupil under section 261E.6, the charter school  
25 shall pay the tuition reimbursement amount to an eligible  
26 postsecondary institution as provided in section 261E.7.

27 Sec. 63. Section 257.35, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
28 following new subsection:

29 NEW SUBSECTION. 21A. The director of the department of  
30 management may deduct the following from the state aid due to  
31 each school district pursuant to this chapter and shall pay  
32 the amounts to the respective area education agencies on a  
33 monthly basis from September 15 through June 15 during each  
34 school year for purposes of providing services to students  
35 enrolled in charter schools established pursuant to chapter

1 256E, subchapter I, within the boundaries of the area education  
2 agency:

3     *a.* The amount calculated for media services for the school  
4 district that is attributable to the number of students  
5 enrolled in charter schools established pursuant to chapter  
6 256E, subchapter I, within the school district who are provided  
7 with media services by an area education agency.

8     *b.* The amount calculated for educational services for the  
9 school district that is attributable to the number of students  
10 enrolled in charter schools established pursuant to chapter  
11 256E, subchapter I, within the school district who are provided  
12 with educational services by an area education agency.

13     Sec. 64. Section 273.2, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code  
14 2026, is amended to read as follows:

15     *a.* The area education agency shall furnish educational  
16 services and programs as provided in section 273.1, this  
17 section, sections 273.3 through 273.8, and chapter 256B to  
18 pupils enrolled in public or nonpublic schools which are on  
19 the list of accredited schools pursuant to section 256.11, and  
20 to pupils enrolled in charter schools established pursuant  
21 to chapter 256E, subchapter I, which request to receive such  
22 services. The programs and services provided shall be at least  
23 commensurate with programs and services existing on July 1,  
24 1974. The programs and services provided to pupils enrolled  
25 in nonpublic schools shall be comparable to programs and  
26 services provided to pupils enrolled in public schools within  
27 constitutional guidelines.

28     Sec. 65. Section 273.2, subsection 4, Code 2026, is amended  
29 to read as follows:

30     4. The area education agency shall provide for special  
31 education services and media services for school districts  
32 and shall encourage and assist school districts to establish  
33 programs for gifted and talented children. The area education  
34 agency shall provide for media services for charter schools  
35 established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I. The area

1 education agency shall assist in facilitating interlibrary  
2 loans of materials between school districts and other  
3 libraries.

4 Sec. 66. APPLICABILITY. The following apply to school  
5 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2026:

6 1. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
7 256E.8, subsection 2, paragraph "a".

8 2. The section of this division of this Act amending section  
9 257.35.

10 DIVISION III

11 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

12 Sec. 67. Section 280.13D, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 **280.13D Participation in extracurricular interscholastic  
15 athletic contests or competitions and extracurricular activities  
16 provided by public schools.**

17 1. *a.* The board of directors of a school district shall  
18 allow a student who resides within the school district, and  
19 who is enrolled in a nonpublic school or a charter school  
20 established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, to  
21 participate in any extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
22 contest or competition, and any extracurricular activity,  
23 including theater, show choir, and band, that is provided by  
24 the school district pursuant to the terms of an agreement  
25 between the board of directors of the school district and the  
26 authorities in charge of the nonpublic school or the governing  
27 board of the charter school, as applicable, that provides  
28 for the eligibility of the student, if all of the following  
29 criteria are satisfied:

30 (1) The extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or  
31 competition or extracurricular activity has not been provided  
32 by the nonpublic school or the charter school during the two  
33 immediately preceding school years.

34 (2) The nonpublic school or charter school has not entered  
35 into an agreement under section 280.13A with another school

1 district, nonpublic school, or charter school that provides  
2 for the eligibility of students enrolled in the nonpublic  
3 school or charter school to participate in the extracurricular  
4 interscholastic athletic contest or competition or any  
5 extracurricular activity that is being provided by that school  
6 district, nonpublic school, or charter school.

7     *b.* The board of directors of a school district shall allow  
8 a student who resides within a contiguous school district,  
9 and who is enrolled in a nonpublic school or a charter school  
10 established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, to  
11 participate in any extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
12 contest or competition and any extracurricular activity that  
13 is provided by the school district pursuant to the terms of an  
14 agreement between the board of directors of the school district  
15 and the authorities in charge of the nonpublic school or the  
16 governing board of the charter school, as applicable, that  
17 provides for the eligibility of the student, if all of the  
18 following criteria are satisfied:

19     (1) The extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or  
20 competition or extracurricular activity has not been provided  
21 by the nonpublic school or charter school, or by the student's  
22 school district of residence, during the two immediately  
23 preceding school years.

24     (2) The nonpublic school or charter school has not  
25 entered into an agreement under section 280.13A with another  
26 school district, nonpublic school, or charter school that  
27 provides for the eligibility of students enrolled in the  
28 nonpublic school or charter school to participate in the  
29 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
30 or extracurricular activity that is being provided by that  
31 school district, nonpublic school, or charter school.

32     *c.* If the board of directors of a school district has  
33 established a fee for the cost of a student's participation  
34 in an extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or  
35 competition or extracurricular activity, a student who is

1 enrolled in a nonpublic school or a charter school established  
2 pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, and is participating  
3 ~~in a contest or competition~~ an extracurricular interscholastic  
4 contest or competition or extracurricular activity at a public  
5 school pursuant to paragraph "a" or "b", or the student's parent  
6 or guardian, shall be responsible for the payment of such fee.  
7 The amount of such fee shall not exceed the amount of the fee  
8 the board of directors of the school district has established  
9 for students who are enrolled in the school district.

10 2. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic school or  
11 a charter school established pursuant to chapter 256E,  
12 subchapter I, and is participating in ~~a contest or competition~~  
13 an extracurricular interscholastic contest or competition  
14 or extracurricular activity at a public school pursuant to  
15 subsection 1, paragraph "a" or "b", shall participate under  
16 the same conditions as a student who is enrolled in the school  
17 district, including meeting the school district's student code  
18 of conduct requirements.

19 3. A student who participates in an extracurricular  
20 interscholastic athletic contest or competition or  
21 extracurricular activity pursuant to this section shall be  
22 deemed to satisfy the residence requirements for purposes of  
23 section 256.46.

24 DIVISION IV

25 DRIVER EDUCATION

26 Sec. 68. Section 321.178, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code  
27 2026, is amended to read as follows:

28 c. (1) (a) Every public school district in Iowa shall  
29 offer or make available to all students residing in the school  
30 district, or Iowa students attending a nonpublic school or  
31 receiving competent private instruction or independent private  
32 instruction as defined in section 299A.1, in the district, an  
33 approved course in driver education.

34 (b) (i) Every public school district in Iowa shall offer  
35 or make available to all Iowa students residing in the school

1 district who attend a charter school established pursuant  
2 to chapter 256E, subchapter I, an approved course in driver  
3 education pursuant to policies established by the public school  
4 district. The charter school shall be responsible for the  
5 payment of all of the school district's costs associated with  
6 providing the approved course in driver education to such  
7 students.

8 (ii) Every charter school established pursuant to chapter  
9 256E, subchapter I, shall offer or make available to all  
10 students attending the charter school an approved course in  
11 driver education.

12 (c) The receiving district shall be the school district  
13 responsible for making driver education available to a student  
14 participating in open enrollment under section 282.18.

15 (2) The courses may be offered at sites other than at the  
16 public school or charter school, including nonpublic school  
17 facilities within the public school districts. An approved  
18 course offered during the summer months, on Saturdays, after  
19 regular school hours during the regular terms or partly in one  
20 term or summer vacation period and partly in the succeeding  
21 term or summer vacation period, as the case may be, shall  
22 satisfy the requirements of this section to the same extent  
23 as an approved course offered during the regular school hours  
24 of the school term. A student who successfully completes and  
25 obtains certification in an approved course in driver education  
26 or an approved course in motorcycle education may, upon proof  
27 of such fact, be excused from any field test which the student  
28 would otherwise be required to take in demonstrating the  
29 student's ability to operate a motor vehicle. A student shall  
30 not be excused from any field test if a parent, guardian,  
31 or instructor requests that a test be administered. A final  
32 field test prior to a student's completion of an approved  
33 course shall be administered by a person qualified to provide  
34 street or highway driving instruction under paragraph "b",  
35 subparagraph (2).

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35

DIVISION V

IOWA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Sec. 69. Section 97B.1A, subsection 8, paragraph a, Code 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (13) Persons employed by a charter school established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, that satisfies all applicable requirements under federal law for participation in the retirement system.

Sec. 70. Section 97B.1A, subsection 9, paragraph a, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

a. "Employer" means the state of Iowa, the counties, municipalities, agencies, public school districts, charter schools established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, that satisfy all applicable requirements under federal law for participation in the retirement system, all political subdivisions, and all of their departments and instrumentalities, including area agencies on aging, other than those employing persons as specified in subsection 8, paragraph "b", subparagraph (7), and joint planning commissions created under chapter 28E or 28I.

Sec. 71. Section 256E.11, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

2. In the event of a charter school closure, the assets of the charter school shall be used first to satisfy outstanding payroll obligations for employees of the school and any liabilities due and owing to the Iowa public employees' retirement system, then to creditors of the school, then to the public school district in which the charter school operated, if applicable, and then to the state general fund. If the assets of the charter school are insufficient to pay all obligations of the charter school, the prioritization of the distribution of assets shall be consistent with this subsection and otherwise determined by the district court.

DIVISION VI

CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

1     Sec. 72. NEW SECTION. 16.163 Charter school facilities  
2 revolving loan program fund — credit enhancement agreements.

3     1. *a.* A charter school facilities revolving loan program  
4 fund is created within the authority to assist charter  
5 schools established pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I,  
6 in acquiring suitable school facilities. The moneys in the  
7 charter school facilities revolving loan program fund are  
8 appropriated to the authority for use in the development and  
9 operation of a charter school facilities revolving loan program  
10 to assist charter schools in purchasing, acquiring, developing,  
11 reconstructing, remodeling, or replacing school buildings.

12     *b.* Moneys transferred by the authority for deposit  
13 in the charter school facilities revolving loan program  
14 fund, moneys appropriated to the charter school facilities  
15 revolving loan program, and any other moneys available to  
16 and obtained or accepted by the authority for placement in  
17 the charter school facilities revolving loan program fund  
18 shall be deposited in the fund. Additionally, payment of  
19 interest, recaptures of awards, and other repayments to the  
20 charter school facilities revolving loan program fund shall  
21 be deposited in the fund. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,  
22 subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the charter  
23 school facilities revolving loan program fund shall be credited  
24 to the fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys that remain  
25 unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall  
26 not revert but shall remain available for the same purpose in  
27 the succeeding fiscal year.

28     *c.* The authority shall annually allocate moneys available in  
29 the charter school facilities revolving loan program fund to  
30 assist charter schools in purchasing, acquiring, developing,  
31 reconstructing, remodeling, or replacing school buildings.

32     2. In addition to the charter school facilities revolving  
33 loan program authorized pursuant to subsection 1, the authority  
34 is authorized to make or enter into a liquidity or credit  
35 enhancement agreement with a charter school established

1 pursuant to chapter 256E, subchapter I, to assist the charter  
2 school in purchasing, acquiring, developing, reconstructing,  
3 remodeling, or replacing school buildings.

4 Sec. 73. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE. The Code editor shall  
5 designate section 16.163, as enacted in this division of  
6 this Act, as a new section within chapter 16, subchapter X,  
7 part 6, and may redesignate the preexisting part and correct  
8 internal references as necessary, including references to part  
9 headnotes.

10 DIVISION VII

11 EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

12 Sec. 74. Section 257.11B, subsections 3 and 4, Code 2026,  
13 are amended to read as follows:

14 3. *a.* (1) On or after January 1, but on or before June  
15 30, preceding the school year for which the education savings  
16 account payment is requested, the parent or guardian of an  
17 eligible pupil may request an education savings account payment  
18 by submitting an application to the department of education.

19 (2) On or after October 15, but on or before November 15,  
20 preceding the semester for which the education savings account  
21 payment is requested, the parent or guardian of an eligible  
22 pupil may request an education savings account payment by  
23 submitting an application to the department of education.

24 *b.* ~~Within thirty days following~~ Following submission of an  
25 application, the department of education or third-party entity  
26 shall notify the parent or guardian of each pupil approved for  
27 the following school year or semester and specify the amount of  
28 the education savings account payment for the pupil, if known  
29 at the time of the notice. As soon as practical following the  
30 processing of all applications, the department of education or  
31 third-party entity shall determine the number of pupils in each  
32 school district approved for the school budget year and provide  
33 such information to the department of management.

34 *c.* Education savings account payments shall only be  
35 approved for one school year or one semester, as applicable,

1 and applications must be submitted annually for payments in  
2 subsequent school years.

3 4. Each education savings account payment shall be equal to  
4 the regular program state cost per pupil for the same school  
5 budget year; provided, however, that an education savings  
6 account payment shall be equal to fifty percent of the regular  
7 program state cost per pupil for the same school budget year if  
8 the pupil's parent or guardian submitted an application under  
9 subsection 3, paragraph "a", subparagraph (2).

10 DIVISION VIII

11 INDEPENDENT ACCREDITATION

12 Sec. 75. Section 256.11, subsection 16, Code 2026, is  
13 amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

14 NEW PARAGRAPH. d. (1) If an approved independent  
15 accrediting agency deaccredits a nonpublic school, the  
16 nonpublic school shall not seek accreditation from an  
17 independent accrediting agency that is on the approved list  
18 pursuant to paragraph "a" for a period of three years beginning  
19 on the date the approved independent accrediting agency  
20 deaccredited the nonpublic school.

21 (2) If an approved independent accrediting agency  
22 deaccredits a nonpublic school, the nonpublic school may  
23 immediately seek accreditation under subsection 10.

24 NEW PARAGRAPH. e. (1) This subsection shall not be  
25 construed to authorize the state or any political subdivision  
26 of the state to exercise authority over any nonpublic school or  
27 construed to require a nonpublic school to modify its academic  
28 standards for admission or educational program.

29 (2) This section shall not be construed to expand the  
30 authority of the state or any political subdivision of the  
31 state to impose regulations upon any nonpublic school that are  
32 not necessary to implement this section.

33 (3) Rules adopted by the state board of education to  
34 implement this section that impose an undue burden on a  
35 nonpublic school are invalid.

1 (4) A nonpublic school shall be given the maximum freedom  
2 possible to provide for the educational needs of the school's  
3 students, consistent with state and federal law.

4 DIVISION IX

5 SCHEDULE OF TEACHER TRAININGS AND LICENSURE RENEWAL  
6 REQUIREMENTS

7 Sec. 76. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED  
8 TEACHER TRAINING AND LICENSURE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS.

9 1. The department of education shall convene and provide  
10 administrative support to a task force that shall study the  
11 training programs in which teachers in this state are required  
12 to participate pursuant to state law and the requirements  
13 associated with renewing a teaching license.

14 2. Any expense incurred by a member of the task force  
15 shall be the responsibility of the individual member or the  
16 respective entity represented by the member.

17 3. The task force shall submit its findings and  
18 recommendations to the general assembly on or before  
19 December 31, 2026. The recommendations must include specific  
20 recommendations related to how to change current law to create  
21 a more manageable training program schedule and licensure  
22 renewal requirement schedule for teachers.

23 DIVISION X

24 STATEWIDE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

25 Sec. 77. Section 256.163, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code  
26 2026, is amended to read as follows:

27 *c.* Preschool programs at school districts approved to  
28 participate in the preschool program, or at community-based  
29 providers approved to directly participate in the preschool  
30 program, under chapter 256C.

31 Sec. 78. Section 256C.1, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 1. "*Approved local program*" means a school district's  
34 program or community-based provider's program for four-year-old  
35 children approved by the department of education to provide

1 ~~high-quality~~ high-quality preschool instruction.

2 Sec. 79. Section 256C.1, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. "*Community-based provider approved*  
5 *to directly participate in the preschool program*" means a  
6 community-based provider that meets the community-based  
7 provider requirements under section 256C.3 and has been  
8 approved by the department to directly participate in the  
9 preschool program. "*Community-based provider approved to*  
10 *directly participate in the preschool program*" does not mean a  
11 community-based provider that partners with a school district's  
12 approved local program.

13 Sec. 80. Section 256C.3, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code  
14 2026, is amended to read as follows:

15 b. If space and funding are available, including funding  
16 from another school district account or fund from which  
17 preschool program expenditures are authorized by law, a school  
18 district approved to participate in the preschool program or  
19 community-based provider approved to directly participate in  
20 the preschool program may enroll and pay the cost of attendance  
21 for a younger or older child in the preschool program; however,  
22 the child shall not be counted for state funding purposes.

23 Sec. 81. Section 256C.3, subsection 2, paragraph a,  
24 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The individual is either employed by or under contract  
26 with the school district, or with the community-based provider  
27 approved to directly participate in the preschool program, that  
28 is implementing the program.

29 Sec. 82. Section 256C.3, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph  
30 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

31 The state board shall adopt rules to further define the  
32 following preschool program requirements which shall be used  
33 to determine whether or not a local program implemented by a  
34 school district approved to implement the preschool program or  
35 a community-based provider directly approved to implement the

1 preschool program qualifies as an approved local program:

2 Sec. 83. Section 256C.3, subsection 3, paragraph h, Code  
3 2026, is amended to read as follows:

4 *h.* Provision for ensuring that children receiving care from  
5 other child care arrangements can participate in the preschool  
6 program with minimal disruption due to transportation and  
7 movement from one site to another. The children participating  
8 in the preschool program may be transported by the school  
9 district or community-based provider to activities associated  
10 with the program along with other children.

11 Sec. 84. Section 256C.3, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. *Community-based provider*

14 *requirements.* The state board shall adopt rules to further  
15 define the following requirements of community-based providers  
16 approved to directly participate in the preschool program in  
17 implementing the preschool program:

18 *a.* Methods of demonstrating readiness to implement  
19 high-quality instruction in the local program shall be  
20 identified.

21 *b.* A community-based provider shall participate in data  
22 collection and performance measurement processes and reporting  
23 as defined by rule.

24 *c.* Professional development for community-based provider  
25 preschool teachers shall be addressed in the community-based  
26 provider's professional development plan.

27 Sec. 85. Section 256C.3, subsection 5, paragraphs a, b, and  
28 d, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

29 *a.* The department shall implement an application and  
30 selection process for school district participation and  
31 community-based provider participation in the preschool program  
32 that includes but is not limited to the enrollment requirements  
33 provided under section 256C.4.

34 *b.* The department shall track the progress of  
35 students served by a school district preschool program or

1 community-based provider preschool program and the students'  
2 performance in elementary and secondary education.

3     *d.* The state board, in collaboration with the department,  
4 shall ensure that the administrative rules adopted to support  
5 the preschool program emphasize that children's access to  
6 the program is voluntary, that the preschool foundation aid  
7 provided to a school district or a community-based provider is  
8 provided based upon the enrollment of eligible students in the  
9 school district's or community-based provider's local program  
10 regardless of whether an eligible student is a resident of the  
11 school district, and that agreements entered into by a school  
12 district for the provision of programming in settings other  
13 than the school district's facilities are between the school  
14 district and the private provider.

15     Sec. 86. Section 256C.4, subsection 1, Code 2026, is amended  
16 to read as follows:

17     1. ~~*General State funding for school district approved to*~~  
18 *participate in the preschool program.*

19     *a.* State funding provided under the preschool program to  
20 school districts shall be based upon the enrollment of eligible  
21 students in the preschool programming provided by a school  
22 district approved to participate in the preschool program.

23     *b.* A school district approved to participate in the  
24 preschool program may authorize expenditures for the district's  
25 preschool programming from any of the revenue sources available  
26 to the district from the sources listed in chapter 298A,  
27 provided the expenditures are within the uses permitted for the  
28 revenue source. In addition, the use of the revenue source  
29 for preschool or prekindergarten programming must have been  
30 approved prior to any expenditure from the revenue source for  
31 the district's approved local program.

32     *c.* Funding provided under the preschool program is intended  
33 to supplement, not supplant, existing public funding for  
34 preschool programming.

35     *d.* Preschool foundation aid funding shall not be commingled

1 with the other state aid payments made under section 257.16  
2 to a school district and shall be accounted for by the local  
3 school district separately from the other state aid payments.  
4 Preschool foundation aid payments made to school districts are  
5 miscellaneous income for purposes of chapter 257. A school  
6 district shall maintain a separate listing within its budget  
7 for preschool foundation aid payments received and expenditures  
8 made. A school district shall certify to the department of  
9 education that preschool foundation aid funding received by  
10 the school district was used to supplement, not supplant,  
11 moneys otherwise received and used by the school district for  
12 preschool programming.

13 e. Preschool foundation aid funding shall not be used  
14 for the costs of constructing a facility in connection  
15 with an approved local program. Preschool foundation aid  
16 funding may be used by approved local programs and ~~community~~  
17 ~~providers~~ community-based providers that partner with a  
18 school district's local program for any purpose determined  
19 by the board of directors of the school district to meet  
20 standards for high-quality preschool instruction and for  
21 purposes that directly or indirectly benefit students  
22 enrolled in the approved local program, including but not  
23 limited to professional development for preschool teachers,  
24 instructional equipment and supplies, material and equipment  
25 designed to develop pupils' large and small motor skills,  
26 translation services, playground equipment and repair costs,  
27 food and beverages used by children in the approved local  
28 program, safety equipment, facility rental fees, and for  
29 other direct costs that enhance the approved local program,  
30 including by contracting with community partners for any  
31 such services. Preschool foundation aid funding may be used  
32 by approved local programs for the costs of transportation  
33 involving children participating in the preschool program.  
34 The costs of transporting other children associated with the  
35 preschool program or transported as provided in section 256C.3,

1 subsection 3, paragraph "h", may be prorated by the school  
2 district. Preschool foundation aid funding received by an  
3 approved local program that remains unexpended and unobligated  
4 at the end of a fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2017,  
5 shall be used to build the approved local program's preschool  
6 program capacity in the next succeeding fiscal year excluding  
7 that portion of such unexpended and unobligated funding that  
8 the school district authorizes for transfer for deposit in the  
9 school district's flexibility account established under section  
10 298A.2, subsection 2, if the statutory requirements for the use  
11 of such funding are met. For purposes of determining whether a  
12 school district has authority to transfer preschool foundation  
13 aid funding for deposit in the school district's flexibility  
14 account established under section 298A.2, subsection 2, the  
15 school district must have provided preschool programming  
16 during the fiscal year for which funding remains unexpended  
17 and unobligated to all eligible students for whom a timely  
18 application for enrollment was submitted.

19 *f.* The receipt of funding by a school district for the  
20 purposes of this chapter, the need for additional funding  
21 for the purposes of this chapter, or the enrollment count of  
22 eligible students under this chapter shall not be considered  
23 to be unusual circumstances, create an unusual need for  
24 additional funds, or qualify under any other circumstances that  
25 may be used by the school budget review committee to grant  
26 supplemental aid to or establish a modified supplemental amount  
27 for a school district under section 257.31.

28 *g.* For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and each  
29 succeeding fiscal year, of the amount of preschool foundation  
30 aid received by a school district for a fiscal year in  
31 accordance with section 257.16, not more than five percent may  
32 be used by the school district for administering the district's  
33 approved local program. Outreach activities and rent for  
34 facilities not owned by the school district are permissive uses  
35 of the administrative funds.

1     *h.* For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and each  
2 succeeding fiscal year, of the amount of preschool foundation  
3 aid received by a school district for a fiscal year in  
4 accordance with section 257.16, not less than ninety-five  
5 percent of the per pupil amount shall be passed through to  
6 a community-based provider for each pupil enrolled in the  
7 district's approved local program. For the fiscal year  
8 beginning July 1, 2015, and each succeeding fiscal year, not  
9 more than ten percent of the amount of preschool foundation aid  
10 passed through to a community-based provider may be used by the  
11 community-based provider for administrative costs. The costs  
12 of outreach activities and rent for facilities not owned by  
13 the school district are permissive administrative costs. The  
14 costs of transportation involving children participating in the  
15 preschool program and other children may be prorated.

16     Sec. 87. Section 256C.4, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
17 following new subsection:

18     NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. *State preschool funding for*  
19 *community-based providers approved to directly participate in the*  
20 *preschool program.*

21     *a.* State preschool funding shall not be used for the costs  
22 of constructing a facility in connection with an approved  
23 local program. Preschool foundation aid funding may be used  
24 by community-based providers for any purpose determined by the  
25 community-based provider to meet standards for high-quality  
26 preschool instruction and for purposes that directly or  
27 indirectly benefit students enrolled in the approved local  
28 program, including but not limited to professional development  
29 for preschool teachers, instructional equipment and supplies,  
30 material and equipment designed to develop pupils' large and  
31 small motor skills, translation services, playground equipment  
32 and repair costs, food and beverages used by children in the  
33 approved local program, safety equipment, facility rental fees,  
34 and for other direct costs that enhance the approved local  
35 program, including by contracting with other community partners

1 for any such services. State preschool funding may be used  
2 by approved local programs for the costs of transportation  
3 involving children participating in the preschool program.  
4 Preschool foundation aid funding received by a community-based  
5 provider approved to directly participate in the preschool  
6 program that remains unexpended and unobligated at the end  
7 of a fiscal year shall be used to build the community-based  
8 provider's capacity in the next succeeding fiscal year.

9     *b.* For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and each  
10 succeeding fiscal year, of the amount of state preschool  
11 funding received by a community-based provider approved  
12 to directly participate in the preschool program for a  
13 fiscal year, not more than five percent may be used by the  
14 community-based provider for administering the approved local  
15 program. Outreach activities and rent for facilities not owned  
16 by the community-based provider are permissive uses of the  
17 administrative funds.

18     Sec. 88. Section 256C.4, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
19 2026, is amended to read as follows:

20     *a.* To be included as an eligible student in the enrollment  
21 count of the preschool programming provided by a school  
22 district approved to participate in the preschool program or  
23 a community-based provider approved to directly participate  
24 in the preschool program, a child must be four years of age  
25 by September 15 in the base year and attending the school  
26 district's or community-based provider's approved local  
27 program.

28     Sec. 89. Section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraphs c and d,  
29 Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

30     *c.* "*Preschool budget enrollment*" means the figure that is  
31 equal to fifty percent of the actual enrollment of eligible  
32 students in the preschool programming provided by a school  
33 district approved to participate in the preschool program or a  
34 community-based provider approved to directly participate in  
35 the preschool program on October 1 of the base year, or the

1 first Monday in October if October 1 falls on a Saturday or  
2 Sunday.

3 *d. "Preschool foundation aid" means the product of the*  
4 *regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year*  
5 *multiplied by the school district's preschool budget enrollment*  
6 *or the community-based provider's preschool budget enrollment.*

7 Sec. 90. Section 256C.5, Code 2026, is amended by adding the  
8 following new subsection:

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. *Preschool foundation aid community-based*  
10 *provider amount.* For the initial school year for which a  
11 community-based provider approved to directly participate in  
12 the preschool program receives that approval and implements  
13 the preschool program, the preschool foundation aid payable  
14 to the community-based provider is the product of the regular  
15 program state cost per pupil for the school year multiplied  
16 by fifty percent of the community-based provider's eligible  
17 student enrollment on the date in the school year determined  
18 by rule. For budget years subsequent to the initial year  
19 for which a community-based provider approved to directly  
20 participate in the preschool program receives that initial  
21 approval and implements the preschool program, the preschool  
22 foundation aid is the same as calculated pursuant to subsection  
23 1. The funding for the preschool foundation aid payable to the  
24 community-based provider shall be paid from the appropriation  
25 made in section 257.16. Continuation of a community-based  
26 provider's participation in the preschool program for a second  
27 or subsequent budget year is subject to the approval of the  
28 department based upon the community-based provider's compliance  
29 with accountability provisions and the department's on-site  
30 review of the community-based provider's implementation of the  
31 preschool program.

32 Sec. 91. Section 256C.5, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended  
33 to read as follows:

34 3. *Aid payments.*

35 a. Preschool foundation aid shall be paid as part of the

1 state aid payments made to school districts in accordance with  
2 section 257.16.

3 b. Preschool foundation aid paid directly to community-based  
4 providers shall be paid to the community-based provider in  
5 monthly installments beginning on September 15 of a budget year  
6 and ending on or about June 15 of the budget year as determined  
7 by the department of management, taking into consideration the  
8 relative budget and cash position of the state resources.

9 Sec. 92. EMERGENCY RULES. The state board of education may  
10 adopt emergency rules under section 17A.4, subsection 3, and  
11 section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph "b", to implement the  
12 provisions of this division of this Act and the rules shall  
13 be effective immediately upon filing unless a later date is  
14 specified in the rules. Any rules adopted in accordance with  
15 this section shall also be published as a notice of intended  
16 action as provided in section 17A.4.

17 DIVISION XI

18 SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATIONS — PRESCHOOL STARTUP COSTS

19 Sec. 93. SCHOOL TUITION ORGANIZATIONS — PRESCHOOL STARTUP  
20 COSTS.

21 1. As used in this section:

22 a. "Preschool" means a nonpublic provider of preschool  
23 services that commenced operations in 2025; is located in a  
24 city with a population of greater than thirty-nine thousand  
25 but less than forty thousand according to the 2020 federal  
26 decennial census; and is located in a county with a population  
27 of greater than one hundred fifty-five thousand but less than  
28 one hundred eighty thousand, according to the 2020 federal  
29 decennial census.

30 b. "School tuition organization" means the same as defined  
31 in section 422.11S, subsection 6.

32 2. a. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,  
33 a school tuition organization that represents schools located  
34 in a county with a population of greater than one hundred  
35 fifty-five thousand but less than one hundred eighty thousand,

1 according to the 2020 federal decennial census, may provide  
2 funding to a preschool in an amount up to the costs the  
3 preschool incurred in its first year of operation related to  
4 the provision of preschool services.

5 b. Payments made pursuant to paragraph "a" shall not count  
6 toward the allocation of annual revenue standards established  
7 in section 422.11S, subsection 6, paragraph "c", subparagraph  
8 (1).

9 DIVISION XII

10 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

11 Sec. 94. Section 261E.8, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code  
12 2026, is amended to read as follows:

13 a. (1) Students from accredited nonpublic schools, and  
14 students receiving competent private instruction or independent  
15 private instruction under chapter 299A, and students from  
16 charter schools established pursuant to chapter 256E may access  
17 the program through the school district in which the accredited  
18 nonpublic school, ~~or private institution, or charter school~~ is  
19 located.

20 (2) Students from charter schools established pursuant to  
21 chapter 256E that provide educational instruction and course  
22 content that is delivered entirely over the internet may access  
23 the program through the students' school district of residence.

24 Sec. 95. Section 282.18, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code  
25 2026, is amended to read as follows:

26 b. (1) The board of the receiving district shall enroll the  
27 pupil in a school in the receiving district for the following  
28 school year unless the receiving district has insufficient  
29 classroom space for the pupil or unless the receiving district  
30 has prohibited the pupil from enrolling pursuant to subsection  
31 14. The board of directors of a receiving district may adopt  
32 a policy granting the superintendent of the school district  
33 authority to approve open enrollment applications. If the  
34 request is granted, the board shall transmit a copy of the form  
35 to the parent or guardian and the school district of residence

H-8371 (Continued)

1 within five days after board action, but not later than June  
2 1 of the preceding school year. The parent or guardian may  
3 withdraw the request at any time prior to the start of the  
4 school year.

5 (2) A denial of a request by the board of a receiving  
6 district is not subject to appeal. The board of a receiving  
7 district, or the superintendent of the receiving district  
8 if the board of the receiving district has adopted a policy  
9 granting the superintendent the authority to approve open  
10 enrollment applications, shall document the reason for the  
11 denial of a request and submit information related to the  
12 denial to the department of education in a manner prescribed  
13 by the department.

14 DIVISION XIII

15 IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE

16 Sec. 96. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of  
17 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.>

18 2. Title page, by striking lines 1 through 9 and inserting  
19 <An Act relating to education, including by modifying  
20 provisions related to charter school approval, contracts,  
21 funding, and operations, services provided to charter  
22 schools by area education agencies, charter school student  
23 participation in extracurricular activities provided by  
24 public schools, the Iowa public employees' retirement system,  
25 education savings accounts, independent accreditation,  
26 teacher training and licensure, the statewide voluntary  
27 preschool program, the district-to-community college sharing  
28 or concurrent enrollment program, open enrollment, school  
29 tuition organizations, and innovation zone schools; making  
30 appropriations; and including effective date and applicability  
31 provisions.>

By WHEELER of Sioux

[H-8371](#) FILED APRIL 15, 2026

HOUSE FILE 2757

H-8365

1 Amend House File 2757 as follows:

2 1. Page 1, by striking lines 3 through 18 and inserting:

3 <NEW SUBSECTION. 111. *a.* (1) The sales price of tangible  
4 personal property or specified digital products sold to or of  
5 services furnished to a nuclear electric generation facility on  
6 or after January 1, 2026.

7 (2) The tangible personal property, specified digital  
8 products, and services furnished shall be directly and  
9 primarily used before, during, or after the site preparation,  
10 construction, reconstruction, replacement, alteration, repair,  
11 safe storage, maintenance, or restarting after decommissioning  
12 of the nuclear electric generation facility.

13 *b.* The exemption under this section does not apply to motor  
14 vehicles subject to registration under chapter 321.>

15 2. Page 1, after line 26 by inserting:

16 <*f.* A nuclear electric generation facility that does not  
17 commence or restart commercial operation within twelve and  
18 one-half years of the later of the issuance of the certificate  
19 of public convenience, use, and necessity under chapter 476A  
20 for the applicable unit of the facility or the placement  
21 of the first safety-related concrete for such unit shall  
22 repay the entire amount of the sales and use tax exemptions  
23 the nuclear electric generation facility claimed under this  
24 subsection and refunds claimed under section 423.4, subsection  
25 1, and the entire amount of sales and use tax exemptions that  
26 contractors, subcontractors, and builders claimed for building  
27 materials, supplies, equipment, and services in the performance  
28 of a written construction contract with the nuclear electric  
29 generation facility under subsection 80. Any repayment shall  
30 be considered a tax payment due and payable to the department  
31 by the nuclear electric generation facility, and the failure to  
32 make the repayment may be treated by the department in the same  
33 manner as a failure to pay the tax shown due, or required to be  
34 shown due, with the filing of a return or deposit form.

35 *g.* (1) A nuclear electric generation facility is eligible

1 to receive an exemption under this subsection until the earlier  
2 of one year from the date of delivering notification to the  
3 applicable regional transmission operators that commercial  
4 operation has been achieved or June 30, 2051.

5 (2) Within thirty days of delivering notification in  
6 subparagraph (1), the nuclear electric generation facility  
7 shall notify the department of the date notification was  
8 delivered under subparagraph (1) in a manner prescribed by the  
9 director.>

10 3. Page 1, by striking lines 27 and 28 and inserting:

11 <h. As used in this subsection:

12 (1) "*Nuclear electric generation facility*" means a facility  
13 commencing or restarting>

14 4. Page 1, line 29, after <operations> by inserting <of at  
15 least one unit of the facility>

16 5. Page 2, line 4, by striking <(1)> and inserting <(a)>

17 6. Page 2, line 10, by striking <(2)> and inserting <(b)>

18 7. Page 2, line 15, by striking <(3)> and inserting <(c)>

19 8. Page 2, line 19, by striking <(4)> and inserting <(d)>

20 9. Page 2, line 23, by striking <(5)> and inserting <(e)>

21 10. Page 2, line 25, by striking <(6)> and inserting <(f)>

22 11. Page 2, line 30, by striking <(a)> and inserting <(i)>

23 12. Page 2, line 33, by striking <(b)> and inserting <(ii)>

24 13. Page 3, line 1, by striking <(7)> and inserting <(g)>

25 14. Page 3, line 4, by striking <(8)> and inserting <(h)>

26 15. Page 3, line 8, by striking <(9)> and inserting <(i)>

27 16. Page 3, after line 12 by inserting:

28 <(2) "*Site preparation activities*" means the same as defined  
29 in subsection 95, paragraph "f".

30 *i.* This subsection is repealed on July 1, 2051.

31 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_. Section 423.4, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code  
32 2026, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

33 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (11) A nuclear electric generation  
34 facility as defined in section 423.3, subsection 111.>

35 17. Page 3, line 14, by striking <2025> and inserting <2026>

H-8365 (Continued)

1 18. Title page, line 1, after <exemptions> by inserting <and  
2 refunds>

3 19. By renumbering as necessary.

By YOUNG of Dallas  
WILZ of Wapello

[H-8365](#) FILED APRIL 15, 2026

HOUSE FILE 2757

H-8368

1 Amend House File 2757 as follows:

2 1. Page 1, before line 1 by inserting:

3 <DIVISION I  
4 NUCLEAR ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITIES — SALES AND USE TAX  
5 EXEMPTIONS>

6 2. Page 3, line 13, before <Act> by inserting <division of  
7 this>

8 3. Page 3, after line 16 by inserting:

9 <DIVISION \_\_\_\_  
10 WIND ENERGY CONVERSION PROPERTY — SURCHARGE  
11 Sec. \_\_\_\_ . NEW SECTION. 476.53B Wind energy conversion  
12 property — surcharge.

13 1. It is the intent of the general assembly that the  
14 surcharge imposed under this section serve as a partial offset  
15 to the revenue reductions resulting from exemptions for nuclear  
16 electric generation facilities under section 423.3, subsection  
17 111.

18 2. For purposes of this section, "*wind energy conversion*  
19 *property*" means the same as defined in section 427B.26.

20 3. In addition to property taxes due and payable in fiscal  
21 years beginning on or after July 1, 2027, a surcharge is  
22 imposed on all wind energy conversion property valued under  
23 section 427B.26 in an amount equal to the difference, but not  
24 less than zero, between the following using the wind energy  
25 conversion property's net acquisition cost as the actual value  
26 of the property:

27 a. The amount of property taxes that would be due and  
28 payable if the wind energy conversion property were assessed  
29 as industrial property under section 441.21, subsection 5,  
30 paragraph "c", using the wind energy conversion property's net  
31 acquisition cost as the actual value of the property, and taxed  
32 at the levy rates applicable to industrial property in the  
33 taxing district where the property is located.

34 b. The amount of property taxes due and payable on the wind  
35 energy conversion property for the applicable fiscal year.

1 4. The surcharge imposed under this section shall apply  
2 to all wind energy conversion property subject to special  
3 valuation under section 427B.26, whether such property  
4 commenced commercial operation before or after the effective  
5 date of this division of this Act.

6 5. The surcharge amount due under this section for each  
7 fiscal year in which property taxes are due and payable on  
8 the wind energy conversion property shall be calculated by  
9 the county assessor of the county in which the wind energy  
10 conversion property is located.

11 6. The surcharge imposed under this section shall be  
12 assessed, billed, and collected by the county assessor and  
13 county treasurer of the county in which the wind energy  
14 conversion property is located, in the same manner and subject  
15 to the same penalties, interest, and enforcement provisions  
16 as property taxes imposed on wind energy conversion property  
17 subject to special valuation under section 427B.26.

18 7. The proceeds of the surcharge imposed under this section  
19 shall be distributed as follows:

20 a. Fifty percent shall be apportioned and paid by the county  
21 treasurer to the taxing authorities in the taxing district  
22 where the wind energy conversion property is located in the  
23 same proportions as property taxes due and payable are imposed  
24 for the same fiscal year. Such amounts shall be used by each  
25 recipient taxing authority to reduce the taxing authority's  
26 property tax dollars levied on all property in the succeeding  
27 fiscal year.

28 b. Fifty percent shall be remitted by the county treasurer  
29 to the treasurer of state for deposit in the general fund of  
30 the state.

31 8. The surcharge imposed under this section is in addition  
32 to, and not in lieu of, any other tax, fee, or financial  
33 obligation imposed on wind energy conversion property or its  
34 owner or operator under any other provision of law. Payment  
35 of the surcharge shall not be credited against, or otherwise

H-8368 (Continued)

1 reduce, any other tax or financial obligation of the wind  
2 energy conversion property owner or operator.

3 9. The department of revenue shall, by January 1, 2028,  
4 and January 1 of each year thereafter, prepare and submit to  
5 the general assembly a report detailing, for the most recently  
6 completed fiscal year, the total amount of surcharges collected  
7 statewide; the amount distributed to each taxing authority in  
8 each county; the amount remitted to the general fund; and the  
9 estimated reduction in property tax levies achieved in each  
10 taxing district as the result of the surcharge.>

11 4. Title page, line 1, by striking <creating> and inserting  
12 <relating to taxes on electric generation facilities,  
13 including>

14 5. Title page, line 3, after <facilities> by inserting <and  
15 a surcharge for wind energy conversion property>

16 6. By renumbering as necessary.

By THOMSON of Floyd

H-8368 FILED APRIL 15, 2026

SENATE FILE 473

H-8370

1 Amend Senate File 473, as amended, passed, and reprinted by  
2 the Senate, as follows:

3 1. By striking everything after the enacting clause and  
4 inserting:

5 <Section 1. Section 237.10, Code 2026, is amended by adding  
6 the following new subsection:

7 NEW SUBSECTION. 9A. *a.* The department shall not do any of  
8 the following:

9 (1) Require an individual licensee or approved kinship  
10 caregiver to affirm, accept, or support a policy that conflicts  
11 with the person's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs.

12 (2) Preclude a person from being licensed as an individual  
13 licensee or approved as an approved kinship caregiver based  
14 on the person's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs,  
15 including but not limited to the person's intent to guide,  
16 instruct, or raise a child in a manner consistent with the  
17 person's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs.

18 *b.* (1) The department, and the department's designees,  
19 shall not adopt a standard, policy, or rule that precludes an  
20 individual licensee or an approved kinship caregiver from being  
21 considered as a possible placement for any child based on the  
22 person's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs.

23 (2) This paragraph shall not preclude the department,  
24 or the department's designee, from taking into account the  
25 sincerely held moral and religious beliefs of a child and the  
26 child's family of origin as compared to the sincerely held  
27 moral and religious beliefs of a potential individual licensee  
28 or approved kinship caregiver when determining the most  
29 appropriate placement for the child consistent with the best  
30 interests of the child.

31 *c.* (1) A current or prospective individual licensee or  
32 approved kinship caregiver may bring an action asserting  
33 a violation of this subsection. A court may provide the  
34 current or prospective individual licensee or approved kinship  
35 caregiver injunctive relief, declaratory relief, or other

1 relief as the court deems appropriate, and may award reasonable  
2 attorney fees and costs.

3 (2) The attorney general may bring an action to enforce this  
4 subsection.

5 Sec. 2. Section 600.7A, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 **600.7A Adoption services provided by or through the**  
8 **department — selection of adoptive parent criteria.**

9 1. The department shall adopt rules which provide that if  
10 adoption services are provided by or through the department,  
11 notwithstanding any other selection of adoptive parent  
12 criteria, the overriding criterion shall be a preference for  
13 placing a child in a stable home environment as expeditiously  
14 as possible.

15 2. a. The department shall not do any of the following:

16 (1) Require a prospective adoptive parent to affirm,  
17 accept, or support a policy that conflicts with the person's  
18 sincerely held religious or moral beliefs.

19 (2) Preclude a person from being qualified as a prospective  
20 adoptive parent based on the person's sincerely held religious  
21 or moral beliefs, including but not limited to the person's  
22 intent to guide, instruct, or raise a child in a manner  
23 consistent with the person's sincerely held religious or moral  
24 beliefs.

25 b. (1) The department, and the department's designees,  
26 shall not adopt a standard, policy, or rule that precludes  
27 a person from being considered as any child's prospective  
28 adoptive parent based on the person's sincerely held religious  
29 or moral beliefs.

30 (2) This paragraph shall not preclude the department from  
31 taking into account the sincerely held moral and religious  
32 beliefs of a child and the child's family of origin as  
33 compared to the sincerely held moral and religious beliefs  
34 of a prospective adoptive parent when determining the most  
35 appropriate placement for the child consistent with the best

1 interests of the child.

2 c. (1) A prospective adoptive parent may bring an action  
3 asserting a violation of this subsection. A court may provide  
4 a prospective adoptive parent injunctive relief, declaratory  
5 relief, or other relief as the court deems appropriate, and may  
6 award reasonable attorney fees and costs.

7 (2) The attorney general may bring an action to enforce this  
8 subsection.

9 Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES — CHILD  
10 FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION SERVICES — DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF  
11 RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

12 1. The department of health and human services shall  
13 adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to amend the department's  
14 rules relating to child foster care and adoption recruitment,  
15 retention, training, and support services to provide, unless  
16 otherwise provided by federal law or regulation, that an  
17 entity that holds itself out to the public as a religious  
18 organization as defined in section 13C.1, and that has a  
19 contract, subcontract, or other agreement with the department  
20 or an agent of the department to provide child foster care  
21 or adoption services, shall not be required to provide the  
22 contracted, subcontracted, or other agreed upon services in a  
23 manner inconsistent with the religious organization's sincerely  
24 held religious beliefs.

25 2. a. This section shall not prohibit the department from  
26 determining the best interests of a child in the provision of  
27 child foster care, as that term is defined in section 237.1, or  
28 adoption services to the child.

29 b. This section shall not relieve the department of the  
30 department's duty to determine the best interests of a child in  
31 the provision of child foster care or adoption services to the  
32 child.>

33 2. Title page, line 1, by striking <certain>

By LOHSE of Polk

H-8370 (Continued)

H-8370 FILED APRIL 15, 2026

SENATE FILE 2263

H-8366

1 Amend Senate File 2263, as amended, passed, and reprinted by  
2 the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 1, line 17, after <guard> by inserting <or the  
4 department of corrections, or a parking lot at a jail, prison,  
5 or correctional facility>

6 2. By striking page 1, line 31, through page 2, line 18, and  
7 inserting:

8 <DIVISION \_\_\_\_

9 ENHANCED WEAPON PENALTY ZONES

10 Sec. \_\_\_\_ . Section 724.4A, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 **724.4A ~~Weapons free zones — enhanced penalties~~ Enhanced**  
13 **weapons penalty zones.**

14 1. As used in this section, "~~weapons free zone~~" "enhanced  
15 weapons penalty zone" means the area in or on, or within one  
16 thousand feet of, the real property comprising a public or  
17 private elementary or secondary school, or in or on the real  
18 property comprising a public park. ~~A weapons free zone~~ An  
19 enhanced weapons penalty zone shall not include that portion  
20 of a public park designated as a hunting area under section  
21 461A.42.

22 2. Notwithstanding sections 902.9 and 903.1, a person who  
23 commits a public offense involving a firearm or offensive  
24 weapon, within a ~~weapons free zone~~ an enhanced weapons penalty  
25 zone, in violation of this or any other chapter shall be  
26 subject to a fine of twice the maximum amount ~~which~~ that may  
27 otherwise be imposed for the public offense.>

28 3. By renumbering as necessary.

By HOLT of Crawford

H-8366 FILED APRIL 15, 2026

SENATE FILE 2284

H-8367

1 Amend the amendment, H-8364, to Senate File 2284, as  
2 amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 4, line 8, by striking <law.> and inserting <law;  
4 however, a law enforcement agency, local authority, or other  
5 state entity shall not convey, share, or license historical  
6 location information to a plate reader vendor except as  
7 authorized under this section.>

8 2. By striking page 5, line 31, through page 6, line 9.

By THOMSON of Floyd

H-8367 FILED APRIL 15, 2026

SENATE FILE 2284

H-8369

1 Amend the amendment, H-8364, to Senate File 2284, as  
2 amended, passed, and reprinted by the Senate, as follows:

3 1. Page 4, line 8, by striking <law.> and inserting <law;  
4 however, a law enforcement agency, local authority, or state  
5 entity shall not convey, share, or license historical location  
6 information to a plate reader vendor except as authorized under  
7 this section.>

8 2. Page 4, after line 28 by inserting:

9 <e. With the plate reader vendor to access historical  
10 location information for installing, maintaining, or providing  
11 technical support for plate readers.>

12 3. By striking page 5, line 31, through page 6, line 9.

By JONES of Clay  
YOUNG of Dallas

H-8369 FILED APRIL 15, 2026