



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

May 26, 2009

The Honorable Michael Mauro
Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

Senate File 482, an Act relating to programs administered by the commission on volunteer service by establishing Iowa summer youth corps and green corps programs, creating the community programs account and making appropriations from the account, excluding certain payments provided to an AmeriCorps volunteer from state income tax, and providing effective dates.

The above Senate File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester J. Culver".

Chester J. Culver
Governor

CJC:bdj

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House





SENATE FILE 482

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMISSION ON VOLUNTEER SERVICE BY ESTABLISHING IOWA SUMMER YOUTH CORPS AND GREEN CORPS PROGRAMS, CREATING THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ACCOUNT AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE ACCOUNT, EXCLUDING CERTAIN PAYMENTS PROVIDED TO AN AMERICORPS VOLUNTEER FROM STATE INCOME TAX, AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 15H.5 IOWA SUMMER YOUTH CORPS.

1. For the purposes of this section, "service-learning" means a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

2. The Iowa summer youth corps program is established to provide meaningful summer enrichment programming to Iowa youth. The program shall be administered by the Iowa commission on volunteer service using a competitive grant process to implement projects in accordance with program requirements. The commission shall adopt administrative rules for the program, including but not limited to incentives, grant criteria, and grantee selection processes. A percentage of the grants shall be designated by the commission to address the needs of city enterprise zones that meet the distress criteria outlined in section 15E.194.

3. The program shall provide grants for projects that utilize a service-learning approach during the summer months to enhance student achievement and summer learning retention,

teach meaningful job skills to Iowa youth, engage Iowa youth in their communities, provide positive youth development experiences, and address the needs of youth from families with low income. The service-learning approach shall be integrated into the program using science, technology, engineering, mathematics, social studies, civic literacy, or other appropriate curricula identified by the department of education.

4. The program shall involve the youth participating in the program in service-learning activities with one or more of the following focuses:

a. Energy conservation in the youth's community, including conducting educational outreach on energy conservation and working to improve energy efficiency in low-income housing and public spaces.

b. Emergency and disaster preparedness.

c. Improving access to and obtaining the benefits from providing computers and other emerging technologies in underserved and other appropriate areas of counties and cities, including but not limited to low-income communities, senior centers and communities, schools, libraries, and other public settings.

d. Mentoring of middle school youth while involving all participants in service-learning to address unmet human, educational, environmental, public safety, or emergency disaster preparedness needs in the participants' community.

e. Establishing or implementing summer of service projects during the summer months. Budgeting for a summer of service project shall include the cost of recruitment, training, and placement of service-learning coordinators. A summer of service project shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(1) Youth participating in a project will be enrolled in grades six through twelve in the school year which begins immediately following the end of a project.

(2) The focus of each project shall be community-based service-learning activities that address unmet human, educational, environmental, emergency and disaster preparedness, and public service needs. Environmental needs addressed may include energy conservation, water quality, and land stewardship.

(3) The activities for each project shall be intensive, structured, supervised, and designed to produce identifiable improvements to the community. The activities may include the extension of school year service-learning programs into the summer months.

f. Performing community improvement projects, which may include but are not limited to a green corps program activity under section 15H.6 or other youth training program.

5. a. Funding for the Iowa summer youth corps program and the Iowa green corps program established pursuant to section 15H.6 shall be obtained from private sector, and local, state, and federal government sources, or from other available funds credited to the community programs account, which shall be created within the department of economic development under the authority of the commission. Moneys available in the account for a fiscal year are appropriated to the commission to be used for the programs.

b. The commission shall manage the program in a manner to maximize the leveraging of federal, local, and private funding opportunities that increase or amplify program impact and service-learning opportunities. The commission shall also encourage collaboration with, and utilization of, other national, local, and nonprofit programs engaged in community service or addressing the needs of youth from families with low income.

c. The commission shall give priority consideration to approving those projects that target communities that have disproportionately high rates of juvenile crime or low rates of high school graduation or that have been designated as city enterprise zones that meet the distress criteria outlined in section 15E.194.

d. The commission shall include progress information concerning implementation of the program in the quarterly reports made to the governor and the general assembly in accordance with section 15H.2.

6. a. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of chapter 8A, subchapter IV, or chapter 96, a person participating in the Iowa summer youth corps program shall be exempt from merit system requirements and shall not be eligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits.

b. If a stipend is provided to a youth participating in the program, the youth shall be age fourteen through eighteen.

c. A youth participating in a summer of service project that either has an education award or no compensation shall comply with the grade level requirements specified for summer of service project participation.

d. A project that uses funding for an AmeriCorps young adult component within the project design shall limit participation in the component to young persons who are age sixteen through twenty-four at the time of enrollment in the project.

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 15H.6 IOWA GREEN CORPS PROGRAM.

1. The Iowa commission on volunteer service, in collaboration with the department of natural resources, the department of workforce development, the office of energy independence, and the utilities board of the department of commerce shall establish an Iowa green corps program. The commission shall work with the collaborating agencies and nonprofit agencies in developing a strategy for attracting additional financial resources for the program from other sources which may include but are not limited to utilities, private sector, and local, state, and federal government funding sources. The financial resources received shall be credited to the community programs account created pursuant to section 15H.5.

2. The program shall utilize AmeriCorps or Iowa summer youth corps program volunteers to provide capacity building activities, training, and implementation of major transformative projects in communities. The project selection shall emphasize energy efficiency, historic preservation, neighborhood development, and storm water reduction and management.

3. The capacity building activities shall be targeted in communities that are already working with existing community improvement programs, including but not limited to the Iowa great places program established under section 303.3C, the green streets and main street Iowa programs administered by the department of economic development, and disaster remediation activities by communities located within an area declared to be a disaster area in a declaration issued by the president of the United States or the governor.

Sec. 3. Section 422.7, Code 2009, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 23. Subtract, to the extent included, the amount of federal Segal AmeriCorps education award payments.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES -- APPLICABILITY.

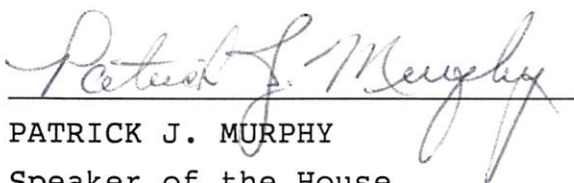
1. Except as provided in subsection 2, this Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

2. The provision of this Act amending section 422.7 takes effect January 1, 2010, and is applicable on or after that date.



JOHN P. KIBBIE

President of the Senate



PATRICK J. MURPHY

Speaker of the House

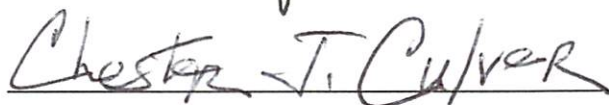
I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 482, Eighty-third General Assembly.



MICHAEL E. MARSHALL

Secretary of the Senate

Approved May 26th, 2009



CHESTER J. CULVER

Governor