FEB 28 1996
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2403
BY OLLIE

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to evaluations of certain state-funded elementary
2 and secondary education programs and relating to
3 appropriations made for education programs.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256.24 ALLOCATION OF
2 APPROPRIATED MONEYS -- INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.
3 1. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of
4 appropriations made for education programs, of the moneys
5 appropriated each fiscal year by the general assembly from the
6 general fund of the state for education programs established
7 on or after July 1, 1996, for public and nonpublic elementary
8 and secondary schools, five percent shall not be allocated to
9 the department of education or other agency to which the funds
10 are appropriated, until the department or agency submits proof
11 to the department of management that an independent third
12 party has been contracted with to conduct independent
13 evaluations of the education programs for public and nonpublic
14 elementary and secondary schools. This section does not apply
15 to moneys appropriated pursuant to chapter 257 or 294A.
16 2. An agency appropriated funds for education programs,
17 pursuant to subsection 1, shall develop and issue a request
18 for proposals prior to issuing a contract for an independent
19 evaluation. The evaluation shall include appropriate,
20 customized evaluation instruments which may be summative or
21 formative, or both. The evaluation shall be completed in a
22 timely manner to allow sufficient opportunity for use of the
23 evaluation in reviewing the program. Within thirty days of
24 receiving the evaluation results, the agency if other than the
25 department of education, shall submit the evaluation results
26 in a report to the department of education. The department of
27 education shall compile the reports and transmit them to the
28 chairpersons of the standing committees on education of the
29 general assembly, and shall make the report available to
30 interested public and nonpublic school personnel.
31 "Independent evaluation", for purposes of this section,
32 means an evaluation conducted by an individual who is removed
33 from the original planning, development, and implementation of
34 the program, and who is responsible for conducting an
35 objective evaluation. Independent evaluation goals shall

1 include, but are not limited to, improving the quality and
2 delivery of educational programs and practices in public and
3 nonpublic school classrooms; assessing, objectively and
4 methodically, the effectiveness and impact of the state-funded
5 educational programs established on or after July 1, 1996;
6 providing individuals in the education field and individuals
7 making decisions about education programs with objective
8 evaluative data to make informed decisions; assisting
9 individuals in the education field and individuals making
10 decisions about education programs to make decisions about
11 continuation and replication of programs; and demonstrating
12 program efficiency and accountability.
13 Sec. 2. Section 257A.7, Code 1995, is amended to read as
14 follows:
15 257A.7 FUND CREATED AND TRANSFER OF MONEYS.
16 1. The "First In the Nation in Education Fund" is
17 established in the office of treasurer of state. The fund
18 shall be an endowment for the foundation and moneys deposited
19 in the fund shall not be expended, but shall be invested by
20 the treasurer of state in investments authorized for the Iowa
21 public employees' retirement fund in section 97B.7.
22 2. The governing board of the foundation shall establish a
23 separate account within the fund for the deposit of moneys
24 received pursuant to section 256.24. Moneys deposited in the
25 separate account shall be used only for the purposes of
26 section 257A.5, subsection 9.
27 3. The governing board of the foundation may accept gifts,
28 grants, bequests, other moneys, and in-kind contributions for
29 deposit in the fund as a part of the endowment or for the use
30 of the foundation.
31 Gifts, grants, and bequests from public and private
32 sources, federal funds, and other moneys received for the
33 endowment shall be deposited in the fund. Interest earned on
34 the fund shall be transferred by the department of revenue and
35 finance to the credit of the foundation at the request of the

1 governing board and shall be used for the purposes of this
2 chapter.
3 4. The governing board may transfer moneys credited for
4 the use of the foundation not encumbered or obligated on June
5 30 of a fiscal year to the fund and those moneys shall be
6 considered interest earned by the fund and may be transferred
7 back to the credit of the foundation at the request of the
8 governing board at any time.
9 EXPLANATION
10 This bill allocates 5 percent of the moneys appropriated by
11 the general assembly to support independent evaluations of
12 state-funded elementary and secondary education programs
13 established on or after July 1, 1996.
14 "Independent evaluation", for purposes of this bill, means
15 an evaluation conducted by an individual removed from the
16 original planning, development, and implementation of the
17 program, and who is responsible for conducting the objective
18 evaluation. Independent evaluation goals include, but are not
19 limited to, improving the quality and delivery of educational
20 programs and practices in public and nonpublic school
21 classrooms; assessing, objectively and methodically, the
22 effectiveness and impact of state-funded educational programs;
23 providing educators and policymakers with objective evaluative
24 data to make informed decisions; assisting educators and
25 policymakers in selecting programs deserving continued support
26 and replication; and demonstrating efficiency and
27 accountability.
28 An agency appropriated funds for education programs shall
29 contract with an independent third party to conduct
30 independent evaluations. The agency shall develop and issue a
31 request for proposals prior to issuing a contract for an
32 independent evaluation. Within 30 days of receiving the
33 evaluation results, the agency shall submit the evaluation
34 results in a report to the department of education and to the
35 chairpersons of the standing committees on education of the

1 general assembly, and shall make the report available to
2 interested public and nonpublic schools.
3 The governing board for the first in the nation in
4 education foundation (FINE) is directed to establish a
5 separate account within the FINE fund for the deposit of any
6 moneys allocated to the FINE foundation for conducting or
7 contracting for independent evaluations.
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