

SENATE FILE 2052
BY VILSACK

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to an assessment of the employability skills of
2 recent high school graduates by the board of directors of a
3 school district and providing an appropriation.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 2052

1 Section 1. STATE MANDATE APPROPRIATION. There is
2 appropriated from the general fund of the state to the
3 department of education for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
4 1996, and ending June 30, 1997, the following amount, or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary, to be used for the purpose
6 designated:

7 For disbursement to school districts, upon claims filed by
8 school districts, to reimburse the school districts for the
9 cost of conducting employability skills surveys pursuant to
10 section 280.18:

11 \$ 100,000

12 1. The department of education shall adopt rules
13 specifying the procedures to be followed by school districts
14 in submitting claims for reimbursement.

15 2. The appropriation made in this section shall be deemed
16 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
17 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
18 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act by
19 and enforcement of this Act against all affected political
20 subdivisions.

21 Sec. 2. Section 280.18, Code 1995, is amended by adding
22 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

23 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Not later than one year after
24 the date on which the majority of the district's seniors
25 graduate, the board shall conduct an annual survey of
26 accredited higher education institutions, as defined in
27 section 261.92, and employers representative of the local
28 business community. The survey shall assess the employability
29 skills of the district's high school graduates who have
30 enrolled in accredited higher education institutions in Iowa
31 or entered the local workforce. The employability skills
32 assessed shall include, but are not limited to, reading for
33 information, applied mathematics, listening, and writing.
34 Annually, the school district shall tabulate and summarize the
35 information collected pursuant to this section and shall file

1 a report with the department of education. The board shall
2 make copies of the report available upon request.

3 EXPLANATION

4 This bill requires school boards to conduct an annual
5 survey within a year of the date on which the majority of the
6 district's seniors graduate, asking accredited higher
7 education institutions in Iowa and employers representative of
8 the district's local business community to assess the
9 employability skills of the district's high school graduates
10 who have enrolled in the higher education institutions or
11 entered the local workforce. The employability skills
12 assessed shall include, but are not limited to, reading for
13 information, applied mathematics, listening, and writing. The
14 school district shall annually tabulate and summarize the
15 information collected and file a report with the department of
16 education. The board shall make copies of the report
17 available upon request.

18 This bill may include a state mandate as defined in section
19 25B.3.

20 The bill provides an appropriation of \$100,000 to the
21 department of education for disbursement to school districts
22 for the cost of conducting the surveys, and requires the
23 department to adopt rules specifying procedures for school
24 districts to file claims for reimbursement. The appropriation
25 is made to comply with the state mandate funding-related
26 requirements of section 25B.2. The inclusion of the
27 appropriation is intended to reinstate the requirement of
28 political subdivisions to comply with any state mandates
29 included in this bill.

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