

Senate Study Bill 323

Conference Committee Text

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1 1 Section 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of
1 2 the state to the department of education for the fiscal year
1 3 beginning July 1, 1995, and ending June 30, 1996, the
1 4 following amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to
1 5 be used for the purpose designated:

1 6 SCHOOL-TO-WORK PILOT PROJECTS

1 7 For grants for school-to-work pilot projects submitted to
1 8 and approved by the department of education under section
1 9 258.19:

1 10 \$1,000,000

1 11 Sec. 2. Section [256.9](#), Code 1995, is amended by adding the
1 12 following new subsection:

1 13 NEW SUBSECTION. 49. Develop standards and criteria,
1 14 forms, and approval procedures pursuant to section 258.19 for
1 15 school-to-work pilot programs which ensure that students are
1 16 prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and
1 17 productive employment in a modern economy and that every
1 18 person educated in Iowa will possess the knowledge and skills
1 19 necessary to compete in a global economy.

1 20 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 258.19 SCHOOL-TO-WORK PILOT
1 21 PROJECTS.

1 22 1. The department of education shall establish a school-
1 23 to-work pilot project program to provide for the allocation of
1 24 grants to school districts, area education agencies, community
1 25 colleges, and institutions under the control of the state
1 26 board of regents. A school district, area education agency,
1 27 community college, or institution under control of the state
1 28 board of regents, or a combination of two or more of the
1 29 preceding, may submit plans and a budget to the department for
1 30 approval of a pilot project that does all of the following:

1 31 a. Provides for the administration of an employability
1 32 skills assessment to students at the ninth grade and twelfth
1 33 grade levels. The employability skills assessment shall
1 34 measure employability skills that include, but are not limited
1 35 to, reading for information, applied mathematics, listening,
2 1 and writing.

2 2 b. Involves and provides recognition of business and
2 3 community organizations as partners in the school-to-work
2 4 project, and establishes an ongoing coordinating council of
2 5 stakeholders appointed by the area education agency, which
2 6 includes parents and parent organizations, representatives
2 7 from elementary, secondary, postsecondary, and vocational
2 8 education, business, labor, appropriate state agencies and
2 9 departments, and community service organizations.

2 10 c. Identifies a set of strategic industries or employment
2 11 areas that will benefit from school-to-work efforts and the
2 12 skills standards for those industries or areas.

2 13 d. Provides for in-service training in team teaching.

2 14 e. Designs curricula integrating academic and work-based
2 15 learning that sets high standards for all students. The
2 16 curricula shall be designed through the cooperative efforts of
2 17 secondary and postsecondary education professionals, business
2 18 professionals, and community service professionals.

2 19 f. Sets performance standards for program accountability.

2 20 g. Provides incentives for students to meet high
2 21 standards. Businesses and community organizations are

2 22 encouraged to provide students with mentors, shadow
2 23 professionals, speakers, field trip sites, summer jobs,
2 24 internships, and job offers for students who graduate with
2 25 high performance records. Students are encouraged to
2 26 volunteer time with community organizations in exchange for
2 27 workplace learning opportunities.
2 28 h. Provides career guidance, exploration, and counseling
2 29 for students.
2 30 i. Provides for team teaching within the school or in
2 31 partnerships with business or postsecondary schools.
2 32 j. Provides opportunities to students for service training
2 33 focusing on identified community needs.
2 34 2. Not later than August 1, for the school year beginning
2 35 the preceding July 1, the board of directors of a school
3 1 district, the authorities in charge of a nonpublic school, or
3 2 the board of directors of a community college may annually
3 3 file a written request with the department of education that
3 4 the department waive rules relating to vocational education
3 5 that have been adopted by the state board since the enactment
3 6 of 1989 Iowa Acts, chapter 278. A request for a waiver filed
3 7 by the board of directors of a school district, the
3 8 authorities in charge of a nonpublic school, or board of
3 9 directors of a community college shall describe actions being
3 10 taken by the district, school, or community college to meet
3 11 the requirement for which the district or school has requested
3 12 a waiver.
3 13 3. Priority weighting shall be given to pilot project
3 14 plans that meet the requirements of subsection 1 and which are
3 15 developed in collaboration with the courts, the department of
3 16 human services, the department of employment services, and the
3 17 department of economic development.
3 18 4. The state board shall adopt rules under chapter 17A
3 19 establishing criteria for approval of the pilot projects and
3 20 payment of the grants.
3 21 5. School districts, area education agencies, community
3 22 colleges, and institutions of higher learning under the
3 23 control of the state board of regents receiving approval for
3 24 the establishment of pilot projects under this section shall
3 25 submit reports of the results of the pilot projects to the
3 26 department of education and to the chairperson of the standing
3 27 committees on education in the general assembly by October 1
3 28 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the
3 29 grants are received.
3 30 Sec. 4. REPEAL. Section 256.9, subsection 49, and section
3 31 258.19, as enacted by this Act, are repealed effective July 1,
3 32 1997.

3 33 EXPLANATION

3 34 This bill establishes a school-to-work grant program to
3 35 provide for the allocation of \$1 million in grants to school
4 1 districts, area education agencies, community colleges, or
4 2 institutions of higher learning under the control of the state
4 3 board of regents, or a combination of two or more of the
4 4 preceding, with department of education-approved school-to-
4 5 work plans and budgets.

4 6 An approved pilot project shall provide for the
4 7 administration of an employability skills assessment to
4 8 students at the ninth grade and twelfth grade levels; receive
4 9 guidance and direction from a consortium of stakeholders
4 10 appointed by the area education agency and including parents,
4 11 representatives from elementary, secondary, postsecondary, and
4 12 vocational education, business, labor, appropriate state
4 13 agencies and departments, and community service organizations;
4 14 identify a set of strategic industries or employment areas
4 15 that will benefit from school-to-work efforts and the skills
4 16 standards for those industries or areas; provide for in-
4 17 service training in team teaching; set performance standards
4 18 for program accountability; design curricula integrating

4 19 academic and work-based learning that sets high standards for
4 20 all students; provide incentives for students to meet high
4 21 standards; provide career guidance, exploration, and
4 22 counseling for students; and provide for team teaching within
4 23 the school or in partnerships with business or postsecondary
4 24 schools.

4 25 The bill provides for a process by which school districts,
4 26 area education agencies, and community colleges may seek
4 27 waivers from administrative rules for purposes of implementing
4 28 pilot projects. The director of the department of education
4 29 is required to develop standards and criteria, forms, and
4 30 approval procedures for school-to-work pilot programs which
4 31 ensure that students are prepared for responsible citizenship,
4 32 further learning, and productive employment in a modern
4 33 economy and that every person educated in Iowa will possess
4 34 the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global
4 35 economy.

5 1 Priority in awarding grants shall be weighted toward pilot
5 2 project plans that meet the requirements set forth in the bill
5 3 and which are developed in collaboration with the courts, the
5 4 department of human services, the department of employment
5 5 services, and the department of economic development.

5 6 The state board for vocational education shall adopt rules
5 7 under chapter 17A establishing criteria for approval of the
5 8 pilot projects and payment of the grants.

5 9 School districts, area education agencies, community
5 10 colleges, and institutions of higher learning under the
5 11 control of the state board of regents approved for the
5 12 establishment of pilot projects shall submit reports of the
5 13 results of the pilot projects to the department of education
5 14 and with the chairpersons of the standing committees on
5 15 education of the general assembly by October 1 of the fiscal
5 16 year following the fiscal year in which the grants are
5 17 received.

5 18 Provisions in this bill relating to the duties of the
5 19 director of the department of education and establishing the
5 20 school-to-work pilot project program are repealed effective
5 21 July 1, 1997.

5 22 LSB 2595SC 76

5 23 kh/sc/14