

FEB 9 1998

STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE 2181
BY COHOON

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the appointment of the director of the
2 department of education.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2181

1 Section 1. Section 256.8, Code 1997, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 256.8 DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

4 The governor state board shall appoint a director of the
5 department of education ~~subject-to-confirmation-by-the-senate~~.
6 The director shall possess a background in education and
7 administrative experience and shall serve at the pleasure of
8 the governor state board.

9 Sec. 2. Section 256.10, Code Supplement 1997, is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 256.10 EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF.

12 The salary of the director shall be fixed by the governor
13 board within a range established by the general assembly.
14 Appointments to the professional staff of the department shall
15 be without reference to political party affiliation, religious
16 affiliation, sex, or marital status, but shall be based solely
17 upon fitness, ability, and proper qualifications for the
18 particular position. The professional staff shall serve at
19 the discretion of the director. A member of the professional
20 staff shall not be dismissed for cause without appropriate due
21 process procedures including a hearing.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill transfers the authority to appoint the director
24 of the department of education from the governor to the state
25 board of education. The director, under the bill, also serves
26 at the pleasure of the board, rather than the governor.
27 Senate confirmation of the appointment of the director is not
28 necessary under the bill. The bill also authorizes the state
29 board, rather than the governor, to fix the salary of the
30 director.

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