

FEB 19 1997
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 297
BY COHOON

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the earliest date for the beginning of
2 regularly established elementary and secondary school classes,
3 eliminating a penalty for an early school start, and relating
4 to the date by which a private instruction report shall be
5 filed with a school district.

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

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HF 297

1 Section 1. Section 279.10, subsection 1, Code 1997, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. The school year shall begin on the first day of July
4 ~~and each regularly established elementary and secondary school~~
5 ~~shall begin no sooner than a day during the calendar week in~~
6 ~~which the first day of September falls but no later than the~~
7 ~~first Monday in December. However, if the first day of~~
8 ~~September falls on a Sunday, school may begin on a day during~~
9 ~~the calendar week which immediately precedes the first day of~~
10 ~~September.~~ School shall continue for at least one hundred
11 eighty days, except as provided in subsection 3, and may be
12 maintained during the entire calendar year. However, if the
13 board of directors of a district extends the school calendar
14 because inclement weather caused the district to temporarily
15 close school during the regular school calendar, the district
16 may excuse a graduating senior who has met district or school
17 requirements for graduation from attendance during the
18 extended school calendar. A school corporation may begin
19 employment of personnel for in-service training and
20 development purposes before the date to begin elementary and
21 secondary school.

22 Sec. 2. Section 279.10, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph
23 2, Code 1997, is amended to read as follows:

24 The board shall file a request for approval with the
25 department not later than ~~November~~ March 15 of the preceding
26 school year. The request shall include a listing of the
27 savings and goals to be attained under the innovative school
28 year subject to rules adopted by the department under chapter
29 17A. The department shall notify the districts of the
30 approval or denial of pilot programs not later than the next
31 following ~~January~~ April 15.

32 Sec. 3. Section 279.10, subsection 4, Code 1997, is
33 amended by striking the subsection.

34 Sec. 4. Section 299.4, Code 1997, is amended to read as
35 follows:

