FEB 21 1997
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 324
BY MASCHER

(COMPANION TO SF 50 BY GRONSTAL)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act defining the curricula of practitioner preparation program
2 requirements relating to students with disabilities.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
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HF 324

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1 Section 1. Section 256.16, Code 1997, is amended to read
2 as follows:
3 256.16 SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR TEACHER PREPARATION AND
4 CERTAIN EDUCATORS.
5 1. Pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 5, the state
6 board shall adopt rules requiring all higher education
7 institutions providing practitioner preparation to include in
8 the professional education program, preparation that
9 contributes to the education of students with disabilities and
10 students who are gifted and talented, which must be
11 successfully completed before graduation from the practitioner
12 preparation program. The program shall include, but is not
13 limited to, the following:
14 a. Instruction in the laws impacting the education of
15 students with disabilities, including section 504 of the
16 federal Rehabilitation Act of 1991 and the federal Individuals
17 with Disabilities Education Act.
18 b. Knowledge about, and teaching methods to respond to,
19 the learning styles of these students and the particular
20 challenges and barriers affecting the education of students
21 with disabilities.
22 c. Information about resources available to facilitate the
23 education of students with disabilities in the regular
24 classroom, including, but not limited to, methods for
25 utilizing resources such as other students, parents, and
26 government and community agencies.
27 d. Knowledge of assistive technology and other available
28 accommodations for students with disabilities.
29 2. A person initially applying for a license shall
30 successfully complete a professional education program
31 containing the subject matter specified in this section,
32 before the initial action by the board of educational
33 examiners takes place.
34 EXPLANATION
35 This bill further defines the curricula relating to the

education of students with disabilities that institutions of higher education providing practitioner preparation programs are required to include in their professional education programs.

The bill provides that the portion of the preparation program relating to the education of students with disabilities shall include the following: (1) instruction in the laws impacting the education of students with disabilities, including the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1991 and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; (2) knowledge about, and teaching methods to respond to, the learning styles of students and the particular challenges and barriers affecting the education of students with disabilities; (3) information about resources available to facilitate the education of students with disabilities in the regular classroom including, but not limited to, methods for utilizing resources such as other students, parents, and government and community agencies; and (4) knowledge of assistive technology and other available accommodations for students with disabilities.