

2/20/97 Education

FILED FEB 20 1997

SENATE FILE 186  
BY BORLAUG and DOUGLAS

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act allowing teaching parents to provide driver's education  
2 instruction.

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

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S.F. 186

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.178A DRIVER EDUCATION --  
2 TEACHING PARENT.

3 1. TEACHING PARENT QUALIFICATIONS. As an alternative to  
4 section 321.178, a teaching parent may instruct a student in  
5 driver's education courses. To qualify as a teaching parent,  
6 the parent or guardian must hold a teaching certificate at the  
7 secondary level and a valid certificate to teach driver's  
8 education or comply with the definition of a teaching parent  
9 in this section and provide certified evidence that the  
10 requirements under this section have been met.

11 2. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this section:  
12 a. "Student" means a person within the custody and control  
13 of the teaching parent, who is between the ages of fourteen  
14 and twenty-one years of age and who satisfies preliminary  
15 licensing requirements of the department.

16 b. "Teaching parent" means a person who is the parent or  
17 guardian of a student who holds a current valid Iowa license  
18 to operate a motor vehicle and who elects to engage in  
19 instruction of the student.

20 3. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION. A driver education course  
21 administered by a teaching parent shall consist at a minimum  
22 of the following:

- 23 a. Thirty clock hours of classroom instruction.
- 24 b. Fifty hours of street or highway driving.
- 25 c. Four hours of classroom instruction concerning  
26 substance abuse.

27 The content of the course of instruction required under  
28 this subsection shall be equivalent to that required under  
29 section 321.178. However, the course requirements, reference  
30 and study materials, manuals, study aids, workbooks, physical  
31 requirements, classroom dimensions, type of chalkboards, extra  
32 vehicle safety equipment, extra foot brake, cut-off switches,  
33 and extra mirrors required for instruction under section  
34 321.178 shall not be required for the course of instruction  
35 provided under this section.

1 4. COURSE COMPLETION AND CERTIFICATION. Upon completion  
2 of a course under this section, the teaching parent shall  
3 document or provide evidence showing substantial statutory  
4 compliance with the requirements of subsection 3 and certify  
5 by affidavit to the department of education that the course  
6 has been completed. Documentation shall include the  
7 following:

- 8 a. An affidavit attesting to satisfactory completion of  
9 course work and laboratory experience.
- 10 b. A listing of subjects presented in classroom training.
- 11 c. Copies of written tests completed by the student.
- 12 d. A statement of the number of classroom hours of  
13 instruction.
- 14 e. A log of street and highway instruction including the  
15 date when the lessons were conducted, the student's and the  
16 parent's name and initials noted next to each entry, notes on  
17 driving activities, including a list of driving deficiencies  
18 and improvements, and the duration of the driving time for  
19 each session. If the department of education is satisfied  
20 that the course has been completed in accordance with this  
21 section, the department shall certify it as an approved  
22 driver's education course.

23 5. DRIVER'S LICENSE. Any student who successfully  
24 completes an approved driver education course as provided in  
25 this section shall be eligible for a driver's license at the  
26 age of sixteen years.

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EXPLANATION

28 This bill allows a parent or guardian to teach driver's  
29 education and allows a student who successfully completes the  
30 teaching parent instruction to obtain a driver's license. To  
31 qualify as a teaching parent, the person must hold a teaching  
32 certificate at the secondary level and a valid certificate to  
33 teach driver's education or comply with the definition of a  
34 teaching parent and provide certified evidence that all the  
35 requirements in the bill have been met.

1 The bill defines "student" as a person within the custody  
2 and control of the teaching parent, who is between the ages of  
3 14 and 21 years of age and who satisfies the state department  
4 of transportation's preliminary licensing requirements, and  
5 "teaching parent" as a person who is the parent or guardian of  
6 a student who holds a current valid Iowa license to operate a  
7 motor vehicle and who elects to engage in instruction of the  
8 student.

9 The bill provides that a driver education course  
10 administered by a teaching parent shall consist of 30 clock  
11 hours of classroom instruction, 50 hours of street or highway  
12 driving, and four hours of classroom instruction concerning  
13 substance abuse. Currently, a student must take 30 hours of  
14 classroom instruction, six or more hours of laboratory  
15 instruction, of which at least three hours must be street or  
16 highway driving, four hours of substance abuse instruction, 20  
17 minutes of instruction concerning railroad crossing safety,  
18 and instruction relating to becoming an organ donor. The  
19 content of the instruction shall be equivalent to that  
20 required under section 321.178. The course requirements,  
21 reference and study materials, manuals, study aids, workbooks,  
22 physical requirements, classroom dimensions, type of  
23 chalkboards, extra vehicle safety equipment, extra foot brake,  
24 cut-off switches, and extra mirrors are not required for a  
25 course of instruction under this section.

26 When the course is completed, the teaching parent must  
27 document or provide evidence showing substantial statutory  
28 compliance and certify that information by affidavit to the  
29 department. Documentation includes an affidavit attesting to  
30 satisfactory completion of course work and laboratory  
31 experience, a listing of subjects presented in classroom  
32 training, copies of written tests completed by the student, a  
33 statement of the number of classroom hours, and a log of  
34 street and highway instruction including the date when the  
35 lessons were conducted, the student's name and initials, the

1 parent's name and initials, notes on driving activities,  
2 including deficiencies and improvements, and the driving time  
3 for each session. If the department of education is satisfied  
4 that the course has been completed as required in accordance  
5 with section 321.178A, the department of education shall  
6 certify the course as an approved driver's education course.  
7 A student who successfully completes an approved driver's  
8 education course is eligible for a driver's license at 16  
9 years of age.

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