

FILED FEB 16 1998

Rereferred To: Education 3/23/98

SENATE FILE **2215**

BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 2101)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of a beginning teacher
2 induction program and making an appropriation.

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

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S.F. 2215

1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. There is appropriated
2 from the general fund of the state to the department of
3 education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1998, and
4 ending June 30, 1999, the following amount, or so much thereof
5 as is necessary, to be used for the purpose designated:

6 For beginning teacher induction program grants as provided
7 in chapter 256D:

8 \$ 180,000

9 It is the intent of the general assembly that grants
10 awarded using moneys appropriated under this section shall
11 provide support to a minimum of 100 teams of mentors and
12 beginning teachers.

13 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256D.1 BEGINNING TEACHER INDUCTION
14 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED -- GRANTS.

15 If the general assembly appropriates moneys for purposes of
16 teacher induction, the department of education shall
17 coordinate a beginning teacher induction program to promote
18 excellence in teaching, build a supportive environment within
19 school districts, to increase the retention of promising
20 beginning teachers, and promote the personal and professional
21 well-being of teachers. The department of education shall
22 develop a process for awarding beginning teacher induction
23 grants to school districts, and shall adopt rules relating to
24 the equitable distribution of grants to school districts to
25 reflect diversity geographically and by population.

26 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 256D.2 DEFINITIONS.

27 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
28 requires:

29 1. "Beginning teacher" means an individual serving under
30 an initial provisional or conditional license, issued by the
31 board under chapter 272, who is assuming a position as a
32 classroom teacher.

33 2. "Board of directors" means the board of directors of a
34 school district or a collaboration of boards of directors of
35 school districts.

1 3. "Classroom teacher" means an individual who holds a
2 valid practitioner's license and who is employed by a school
3 district under sections 279.13 through 279.19 in a school
4 district in this state or area education agency to provide
5 instruction to students.

6 4. "Department" means the department of education.

7 5. "Director" means the director of the department of
8 education.

9 6. "District facilitator" means a licensed professional
10 pursuant to chapter 272 who is appointed by the board of
11 directors, or a collaboration of districts, to serve as the
12 liaison between the board of directors and the department for
13 the beginning teacher induction program.

14 7. "Mentor" means an individual employed by a school
15 district or area education agency as a classroom teacher and
16 who holds a valid license to teach issued under chapter 272.

17 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 256D.3 DISTRICT PLAN.

18 1. A board of directors of a school district or the boards
19 of directors of a collaboration of school districts
20 participating in the beginning teacher induction program shall
21 appoint a district facilitator, whose duties shall include,
22 but are not limited to, overseeing the development of a plan
23 for meeting the goals of the program as set forth in section
24 256D.1, and composing a district committee pursuant to
25 subsection 2.

26 2. The membership of the district committee composed by
27 the district facilitator shall include, but is not limited to,
28 licensed practitioners and an area education agency staff
29 development professional.

30 3. The district committee shall adopt a plan and written
31 procedures for a mentor program consistent with this chapter.
32 The plan and the written procedures shall, at a minimum,
33 provide the process for the selection of and the number of
34 mentors; the mentor training process; the timetable by which
35 the plan shall be implemented; placement of mentors and

1 beginning teachers; the minimum amount of contact time between
2 mentors and beginning teachers; the minimum amount of release
3 time for mentors and beginning teachers for meetings for
4 planning, demonstration, observation, feedback, and workshops;
5 the process for dissolving mentoring partnerships; and the
6 process for measuring the results of the program. The
7 district committee shall recommend to the board of directors
8 or boards of directors of a collaboration the names of
9 classroom teachers eligible to be mentors.

10 4. The district facilitator shall submit the plan, and the
11 proposed costs of implementing the plan, to the board of
12 directors or boards of directors of a collaboration, which
13 shall consider the plan and, once approved, submit the plan
14 and a reasonable cost proposal to the department of education,
15 which shall award grants as equitably as possible based on the
16 geographic and population diversity of the school districts
17 submitting plans. Grants may be awarded in subsequent years
18 based upon the most recent plan on file with the department.

19 5. The district committee is encouraged to work with area
20 education agencies and postsecondary institutions in the
21 preparation and implementation of a plan.

22 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 256D.4 BEGINNING TEACHER AND MENTOR
23 SELECTION AND PLACEMENT.

24 1. To be eligible to be a mentor, a licensed practitioner
25 shall, at a minimum, be employed by a school district as a
26 classroom teacher, have a record of at least five years of
27 effective practice, have been employed for one full year in
28 the district on a nonprobationary basis, and demonstrate
29 professional commitment to the improvement of teaching and
30 learning, and the development of beginning teachers.

31 2. The district facilitator shall position beginning
32 teachers in a manner that provides the greatest opportunity to
33 participate with the largest number of mentors.

34 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 256D.5 BEGINNING TEACHER INDUCTION
35 STATE SUBSIDY -- FUND.

1 1. A teacher who is enrolled as a mentor in an approved
2 beginning teacher induction program shall be eligible for an
3 award of five hundred dollars per semester of participation in
4 the program, which shall be paid from moneys received pursuant
5 to this section by the school district employing the mentor.

6 2. Moneys received by a school district pursuant to this
7 chapter shall be expended to provide mentors with awards in
8 accordance with subsection 1, to implement the plan, to pay
9 the costs of the employer's share of contributions to federal
10 social security and the Iowa public employees' retirement
11 system or a pension and annuity retirement system established
12 under chapter 294, for such amounts paid by the district.

13 3. Moneys received by a school district under this chapter
14 are miscellaneous income for purposes of chapter 257 or are
15 considered encumbered. Each local school district shall
16 maintain a separate listing within their budget for payments
17 received and expenditures made pursuant to this section.

18 4. Moneys received for purposes of this chapter shall not
19 be used for payment of any collective bargaining agreement or
20 arbitrator's decision negotiated or awarded under chapter 20.

21 5. A beginning teacher induction fund is established in
22 the office of the treasurer of state to be administered by the
23 department. Moneys appropriated by the general assembly for
24 deposit in the fund shall be used to provide funding to school
25 districts pursuant to the requirements of this section.

26 6. Notwithstanding section 8.33, unencumbered or
27 unobligated funds remaining on June 30 of the fiscal year for
28 which the funds were appropriated shall not revert but shall
29 be available for expenditure in the following fiscal year for
30 the purposes of this section.

31 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 256D.6 REPORTS.

32 The board of directors of a school district or a
33 collaboration of school districts implementing an approved
34 beginning teacher induction program as provided in this
35 chapter shall submit an assessment of the program's results by

1 July 1 of the fiscal year succeeding the year in which the
2 board or the collaboration of districts received moneys under
3 this chapter. The department shall annually report the
4 statewide results of the program to the chairpersons and the
5 ranking members of the house and senate education committees
6 by January 1.

7 Sec. 8. INITIAL YEAR.

8 1. The board of directors of a school district, or the
9 boards of directors of a collaboration, determined to
10 participate in the beginning teacher induction program in
11 fiscal year 1998-1999, shall submit the plan required under
12 section 256D.3 to the department of education by October 15,
13 1998.

14 2. By January 15, 1999, the department of education shall
15 award grants as provided in accordance with section 256D.3.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill creates, and appropriates moneys for, a beginning
18 teacher induction program to promote excellence in teaching,
19 build a supportive environment in school districts to increase
20 the retention of promising beginning teachers, and promote the
21 personal and professional well-being of teachers.

22 The bill directs the department of education to develop a
23 process to be used in awarding beginning teacher grants.

24 A teacher serving as a mentor under the program is eligible
25 for an award of \$500 per semester of participation. Moneys
26 received by a district shall be expended for awards to
27 mentors, for the costs of the employer's share of
28 contributions to federal social security and the Iowa public
29 employees' retirement system or a pension and annuity
30 retirement system established under chapter 294, for such
31 amounts paid by the districts.

32 The bill establishes a beginning teacher induction fund in
33 the office of the treasurer of state to be administered by the
34 department of education.

35 A school district shall appoint a district facilitator who

1 acts as a liaison between the board and the department of
2 education who shall appoint a district committee. The
3 district committee membership shall include, but is not
4 limited to, licensed teachers and an area education agency
5 staff development professional. The district committee must
6 adopt a plan and written procedures for a mentor program which
7 shall, at a minimum, address the application, mentor
8 selection, and mentor training processes; the timetable for
9 plan implementation; placement; minimum release time;
10 measurement of results; and dissolving mentoring partnerships.
11 District committees are encouraged to collaborate with area
12 education agencies and postsecondary institutions in the
13 preparation of plans. The district committee shall recommend
14 to the board of directors the names of classroom teachers
15 eligible to be mentors.

16 The board of directors shall submit the plan and a
17 reasonable cost proposal to the department, which shall award
18 grants to school districts, selecting from the school
19 districts submitting plans based solely upon equitability and
20 geographic and population diversity.

21 The bill also requires that a licensed teacher, to be
22 eligible to be a mentor, be employed by a school district as a
23 classroom teacher, have a record of at least five years of
24 effective practice, have been employed for one full year in
25 the district on a nonprobationary basis, and demonstrate
26 professional commitment to the improvement of teaching and
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Kramer
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SSB 2101
Education

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON _____)
EDUCATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON REDFERN)

Succeeded By
S/HF 2215

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