

FILED MAR 17 1997

SENATE FILE **483**  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 264)

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act eliminating an alternative to the annual achievement  
2 evaluations required to assess the academic progress of  
3 children receiving private instruction.

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

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S.F. 483

1 Section 1. Section 299A.4, subsection 7, Code 1997, is  
2 amended by striking the subsection.

3 Sec. 2. Section 299A.6, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1997,  
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 If the results of evaluations, administered to a child of  
6 compulsory attendance age who is under competent private  
7 instruction, indicate that the student has failed to make  
8 adequate progress, the parent, guardian, or legal custodian  
9 shall cause the child to attend an accredited public or  
10 nonpublic school at the beginning of the next school year  
11 unless, before the beginning of the next school year, the  
12 child retakes a different form of the same evaluation, or  
13 another evaluation from the approved list of tests or  
14 assessment tools recognized by the department of education,  
15 and the results indicate that adequate progress has been made,  
16 the child has demonstrated adequate performance in the opinion  
17 of an evaluator ~~and-documented-in-a-report-under-section~~  
18 ~~299A.4,--subsection-7,~~ or the director of the department of  
19 education, or the director's designee, grants approval for  
20 competent private instruction to continue under a plan for  
21 remediation.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill removes an assessment option that the parent,  
24 guardian, or legal custodian of a child under private  
25 instruction may annually submit as evidence of the child's  
26 academic progress as an alternative to the annual achievement  
27 evaluation requirement.

28 Under the Code, the parent, guardian, or legal custodian  
29 must be evaluated annually by May 1, either through the use of  
30 a nationally recognized standardized achievement evaluation or  
31 other assessment tool developed or recognized by the  
32 department of education and chosen by the child's parent,  
33 guardian, or legal custodian from a list of approved  
34 evaluations or assessment tools provided by the department of  
35 education, or through the submission of evidence that the

1 child is achieving adequate academic progress. This evidence,  
2 which the bill strikes, includes the following: (1) a written  
3 record indicating the subjects taught and activities in which  
4 the child has been engaged, (2) a portfolio of the child's  
5 work, and (3) completed assessment evaluations if assessment  
6 evaluations are administered to a child as part of the  
7 competent private instruction by the parent, guardian, or  
8 legal custodian.

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