

JAN 20 1999

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 109
BY BRUNKHORST

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

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

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to, and making appropriations for, early
2 elementary education programs in public school districts, and
3 providing an effective date.

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

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HF 109

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256D.1 EARLY ELEMENTARY
2 EDUCATION IMPERATIVES PROGRAM ESTABLISHED -- GOAL.

3 An early elementary education imperatives program is
4 established under the control of the department of education,
5 if the general assembly makes an appropriation for that
6 purpose. The goal of the program is to improve student
7 achievement in the basic educational subject matters of
8 reading, language arts, and mathematics, and to accomplish
9 student proficiency in those subjects by grade four.

10 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256D.2 PROGRAM EXPENDITURES.

11 School districts shall expend funds received pursuant to
12 section 256D.4 to support reading instruction in phonics, and
13 other education practices, programs, or assistance for
14 kindergarten through grade three that may include, but are not
15 limited to, the following: reducing adult to student ratios
16 through the hiring of teachers, former teachers, and para-
17 educator teaching assistants; talented and gifted programs;
18 and implementation of instructional programs designed to
19 improve student achievement in the areas of reading, language
20 arts, and mathematics.

21 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 256D.3 PROGRAM REPORTS.

22 1. Each school district shall submit an annual report to
23 the department of education by September 1 in the fiscal years
24 beginning July 1, 2000, and July 1, 2001, which shall include
25 a report of the progress, as determined by the school district
26 through appropriate assessments, of children enrolled in
27 kindergarten through grade three in attaining or surpassing
28 student achievement goals as established under the
29 accreditation process in chapter 256, and an accounting of the
30 use of the moneys received by the school districts in
31 accordance with this chapter. Each school district shall also
32 certify, in the annual report to the department, that the
33 school district used the moneys received under this chapter to
34 supplement, and not to supplant, the moneys otherwise received
35 and used by the school district for kindergarten through grade

1 three education purposes.

2 2. The department shall submit, to the chairpersons and
3 ranking members of the senate and house education committees
4 by January 1, 2001, a report describing the ways in which
5 school districts are using moneys received under this chapter,
6 and including the school districts, if any, that used moneys
7 received under this chapter to supplant funds the school
8 district was already receiving for kindergarten through grade
9 three education purposes.

10 3. The department shall submit, to the chairpersons and
11 ranking members of the senate and house education committees
12 by January 1, 2002, a report describing school district
13 progress on attaining or surpassing student achievement goals.

14 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 256D.4 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION.

15 1. a. There is appropriated from the general fund of the
16 state to the department of education for the fiscal year
17 beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, the sum of
18 five million dollars for the early elementary education
19 imperatives program.

20 b. There is appropriated from the general fund of the
21 state to the department of education for the fiscal year
22 beginning July 1, 2000, and ending June 30, 2001, the sum of
23 ten million dollars for the early elementary education
24 imperatives program.

25 2. For each fiscal year for which moneys are appropriated
26 in subsection 1, the amount of moneys allocated to school
27 districts shall be in the proportion that the basic enrollment
28 of a district bears to the sum of the basic enrollments of all
29 school districts in the state for the budget year. However, a
30 district shall not receive less than seven thousand five
31 hundred dollars in a fiscal year.

32 3. For each year for which an appropriation is made to the
33 early elementary education imperatives program, the department
34 of education shall notify the department of revenue and
35 finance of the amount to be paid to each school district based

1 upon the distribution plan set forth for the appropriation
2 made pursuant to this section. The allocation to each school
3 district under this section shall be made in one payment on or
4 about October 15 of the fiscal year for which the
5 appropriation is made, taking into consideration the relative
6 budget and cash position of the state resources.

7 4. Moneys received under this section shall not be
8 commingled with state aid payments made under section 257.16
9 to a school district and shall be accounted for by the school
10 district separately from state aid payments.

11 5. Payments made to school districts under this section
12 are miscellaneous income for purposes of chapter 257 or are
13 considered encumbered. Each school district shall maintain a
14 separate listing within its budget for payments received and
15 expenditures made pursuant to this section.

16 6. Moneys received under this section shall not be used
17 for payment of any collective bargaining agreement or
18 arbitrator's decision negotiated or awarded under chapter 20.

19 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 256D.5 REPEAL.

20 This chapter is repealed effective July 1, 2001, except
21 that section 256D.3 is not repealed until January 1, 2002.

22 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
23 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

24 EXPLANATION

25 This bill establishes an early elementary education
26 improvement program, focused on kindergarten through grade
27 three, with an appropriation of \$5 million for fiscal year
28 1999-2000 and an appropriation of \$10 million for fiscal year
29 2000-2001. The bill provides for a per pupil annual
30 distribution of the funds appropriated, but stipulates that a
31 school district shall receive not less than \$7,500.

32 The bill defines the goal of an eligible early elementary
33 education improvement program and lists the components of
34 early education practices and programs for which state funding
35 may be expended.

1 The bill requires school districts to report to the
2 appropriate state agencies their progress in attaining or
3 surpassing student achievement goals. The bill also requires
4 the department of education to submit to the chairpersons and
5 ranking members of the senate and house committees on
6 education reports describing the ways school districts are
7 using early elementary education moneys, whether any are using
8 the moneys to supplant other funding, and describing district
9 progress on attaining or surpassing student achievement goals.

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