

JAN 27 1999  
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 156  
BY MURPHY

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the development and implementation of a  
2 citizenship grade point average by the board of directors of a  
3 school district.

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

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HF 156

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 279.59 CITIZENSHIP GRADE POINT  
2 AVERAGE.

3 1. The board of directors of a school district shall  
4 prescribe procedures for the establishment and implementation  
5 of a citizenship grade point average for students enrolled in  
6 grades seven through twelve, in a manner that makes evident  
7 the connection between academic achievement, attitude, and  
8 individual responsibility. The board shall appoint an  
9 advisory committee to assist the board in determining a set of  
10 behavioral standards by which students will be assessed and  
11 graded. The members of the advisory committee shall include,  
12 but shall not be limited to, licensed practitioners, parents,  
13 and a representative from the local area education agency.  
14 The board shall adopt, giving due consideration to the  
15 recommendations of the advisory committee, a set of standards  
16 to be used to assess and grade a student's behavior. The  
17 board shall periodically examine the efficacy of the  
18 citizenship grade point average, and make adjustments as  
19 needed in accordance with this section.

20 2. Commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2000,  
21 the board of directors of a school district shall provide for  
22 the assessment of a student's behavior against the standards  
23 adopted by the board pursuant to subsection 1, and shall  
24 include the behavioral assessment in the student's report  
25 card, portfolio, or other periodic assessment of the student's  
26 achievement.

27 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance  
28 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
29 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
30 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
31 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
32 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
33 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section  
34 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be  
35 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and

1 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

2 EXPLANATION

3 This bill directs school district boards of directors to  
4 prescribe procedures for the establishment and implementation  
5 of a citizenship grade point average for students enrolled in  
6 grades seven through 12.

7 The boards are required to appoint an advisory committee to  
8 assist the board in determining a set of behavioral standards  
9 by which students will be assessed and graded. Advisory  
10 committee members are to include licensed practitioners,  
11 parents, and a representative from the local area education  
12 agency.

13 The board is directed to adopt, giving due consideration to  
14 the recommendations of the advisory committee, a set of  
15 standards for assessing and grading a student's behavior and  
16 must periodically examine the efficacy of the citizenship  
17 grade point average and make adjustments as needed.

18 Commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2000, the  
19 board must provide for the assessment of a student's behavior  
20 against the standards adopted by the board, and must include  
21 the behavioral assessment in the student's report card,  
22 portfolio, or other periodic assessment of the student's  
23 achievement.

24 This bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
25 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any  
26 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school  
27 district from state school foundation aid received by the  
28 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification  
29 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state  
30 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.  
31 The inclusion of this specification reinstates the requirement  
32 of political subdivisions to comply with any state mandates  
33 included in the bill.

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