

JAN 19 2000

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2055  
BY HEATON

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the certified school to career program.  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2055

1 Section 1. Section 15.362, subsection 1, Code 1999, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. "Certified school to career program" or "certified  
4 program" means a any of the following:

5 a. A sequenced and articulated secondary and postsecondary  
6 program registered as an apprenticeship program under 29  
7 C.F.R. subtit. A, pt. 29, which is conducted pursuant to an  
8 agreement as provided in section 15.364 ~~or-a.~~

9 b. A program approved by the state board of education, in  
10 conjunction with the department of economic development, ~~as~~  
11 meeting.

12 c. An individual program of study developed jointly by a  
13 secondary school, postsecondary institution, and an employer.

14 Each program shall be designed to meet the standards  
15 enumerated in section 15.363, that-integrates integrate a  
16 secondary school curriculum with private sector job training,  
17 which-places place students in job internships, and-which-is  
18 designed-to and continue into postsecondary education and-that  
19 will-result-in-teaching. Programs shall be planned to provide  
20 participants with new skills and-adding, add value to the  
21 their wage-earning potential, of-participants and increase  
22 their long-term employability in the state and-which-is.  
23 Programs shall be conducted pursuant to an agreement as  
24 provided in section 15.364.

25 Sec. 2. Section 15.363, unnumbered paragraphs 1 and 2,  
26 Code 1999, are amended to read as follows:

27 The state board of education, in consultation with the  
28 department of economic development, shall adopt rules pursuant  
29 to chapter 17A to guide the board and department in  
30 determining whether a potential school to career program  
31 should-be-approved meets the standards for certification.

32 A certified school to career program which-is-approved-by  
33 the-state-board-of-education-in-conjunction-with-the  
34 department-of-economic-development shall comply with all of  
35 the following standards:

1     Sec. 3. Section 15.363, Code 1999, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3     NEW SUBSECTION. 6. The participant's high school agrees  
4 to file with the department of education an initial notice of  
5 intent to conduct a certified program, and shall include in  
6 the notice the name of the contact person charged with  
7 overseeing the school district's certified program. The  
8 participant's high school shall maintain on file the certified  
9 program agreement required by section 15.364.

10    Sec. 4. Section 15.364, subsections 2, 3, 6, and 8, Code  
11 Supplement 1999, are amended to read as follows:

12    2. A description of the career field in which the  
13 participant is to be trained, and the beginning date and  
14 duration of the training and employment.

15    3. The employer's agreement to provide paid employment, at  
16 a base wage, for the participant ~~during-the-summer-months~~  
17 after beginning no earlier than the participant's junior and  
18 senior-years year in high school and ending no later than the  
19 fall after the participant's first second year of  
20 postsecondary education.

21    6. That in addition to the base wage paid to the  
22 participant, the employer shall pay an additional sum to be  
23 held in trust to be applied toward the participant's  
24 postsecondary education required for completion of the  
25 certified program. The additional amount must be not less  
26 than an amount determined by the department of economic  
27 development to be sufficient to provide payment of tuition  
28 expenses toward completion of not more than two academic years  
29 of the required postsecondary education component of the  
30 certified program at an Iowa community college or an Iowa  
31 public or private college or university. This amount shall be  
32 held in trust for the benefit of the participant pursuant to  
33 rules adopted by the department of economic development.

34 ~~Payment-into-an-ERISA-approved-fund-for-the-benefit-of-the~~  
35 ~~participant-shall-satisfy-this-requirement.--The-specific-fund~~

1 ~~shall be specified in the agreement.~~

2 8. If the participant does not complete the two-year  
3 employment obligation, the participant's agreement to repay to  
4 the employer the amount paid by the employer toward the  
5 participant's postsecondary education expenses pursuant to  
6 subsection 6. However, if the participant is unable to  
7 complete the two-year employment obligation because the  
8 employer did not afford the participant a two-year employment  
9 opportunity, the participant shall not be required to repay to  
10 the employer the amount paid by the employer toward the  
11 participant's postsecondary education expenses.

12 EXPLANATION

13 This bill expands the definition of "certified school to  
14 career program" and makes a number of changes to the program.

15 Currently, "certified school to career program" means a  
16 program that is registered as an apprenticeship program under  
17 federal regulations or a program approved by the state board  
18 of education, in conjunction with the department of economic  
19 development. The bill adds a new option, that of an  
20 individual program of study developed jointly by a secondary  
21 school, postsecondary institution, and an employer.

22 The bill sets limits on the time during which an employer  
23 must provide paid employment to a period no earlier than the  
24 student's junior year and no later than the fall after the  
25 student's second year of postsecondary education.

26 The Code currently requires that in addition to the base  
27 wage paid to the participant, an employer must pay an  
28 additional sum to be held in trust to be applied toward the  
29 participant's postsecondary education required for completion  
30 of the certified program. The bill strikes language that  
31 would permit a business to satisfy the requirement by paying  
32 into a federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of  
33 1974(ERISA)-approved fund for the benefit of the participant.

34 Under the bill, a certified program agreement must contain  
35 a description of the beginning date and duration of the

1 employment, and assurance from the participant's high school  
2 that it will file with the department of education an initial  
3 notice of intent to conduct a certified program, and include  
4 in the notice the name of the contact person charged with  
5 overseeing the school district's certified program. The  
6 participant's high school is also required to maintain on file  
7 the certified program agreement.

8 Under the bill, if a participant is unable to complete the  
9 employment obligation because the employer does not afford the  
10 participant an employment opportunity, the participant is not  
11 required to repay the employer's portion of the participant's  
12 postsecondary education expenses.

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