

FEB 5 1999

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE
BY O'BRIEN

214

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to making technology adopted and purchased by a
2 school district under the school improvement technology
3 program available to students of accredited nonpublic schools.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 214

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 295.4A TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE FOR
2 ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS.

3 1. Technology adopted and purchased by a school district
4 as provided in this chapter may, and shall to the extent funds
5 are appropriated by the general assembly and allocated as
6 provided in this chapter, be made available to students of
7 accredited nonpublic schools located within the boundaries of
8 the school district upon the written request of the
9 authorities in charge of the nonpublic school on behalf of the
10 school's students as provided in this section.

11 2. From the moneys allocated to a public school district
12 under section 295.2, subsection 2, the department of education
13 shall ascertain a maximum annual amount the school district
14 shall be required to use for the purchase of technology for
15 accredited nonpublic schools. The amount shall be based upon
16 the percentage of a school district's allocation that is
17 equivalent to the proportion that the basic enrollment of an
18 accredited nonpublic school bears to the basic enrollment of
19 the school district. For each school year in which the
20 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school
21 request technology as provided in this section, the nonpublic
22 school shall annually certify its actual enrollment for the
23 prior school year to the department of education by October 1.
24 By October 15, the department shall notify the board of
25 directors of each school district of the maximum amount of its
26 allocation that shall be made available for purchasing
27 technology for accredited nonpublic schools in accordance with
28 this section. The technology made available to accredited
29 nonpublic schools in accordance with this section shall be
30 comparable to the technology of the district of attendance and
31 the amount expended for technology in accordance with this
32 section cannot exceed the per pupil cost of the program of the
33 district of attendance.

34 3. The costs of providing technology to nonpublic schools
35 as provided in this section shall not be included in the

1 computation of district cost under chapter 257, but shall be
2 shown in the budget as an expense from miscellaneous income.
3 4. Prior to receiving technology under this section, the
4 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school shall
5 adopt a technology plan that supports school improvement
6 technology efforts and includes an evaluation component. The
7 plan shall be developed by licensed professional staff of the
8 school, including both teachers and administrators. The plan
9 shall, at a minimum, focus on the attainment of goals
10 determined in accordance with section 280.12 and shall
11 demonstrate how the school will utilize technology to improve
12 student achievement. An accredited nonpublic school needs to
13 develop only one plan while this section is effective. The
14 technology plan shall be kept on file in the school and a copy
15 of the plan, and any subsequent amendments to the plan, shall
16 be sent to the department of education. Progress made under
17 the plan shall be included as part of the annual report
18 submitted to the department of education in compliance with
19 section 280.12.

20 5. Notwithstanding section 295.2, subsection 8, for
21 purposes of this section, "school district" does not mean the
22 Iowa braille and sight saving school, the state school for the
23 deaf, the Price laboratory school at the university of
24 northern Iowa, and the institutions under the control of the
25 department of human services as provided in section 218.1,
26 subsections 1 through 3, 5, 7, and 8.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill expands the school improvement technology program
29 by requiring that a certain amount of the moneys allocated
30 under the program to a school district be used to make
31 technology comparable to that which is purchased by a school
32 district available to students of accredited nonpublic
33 schools.

34 The bill requires the department of education to ascertain
35 the maximum annual amount the school district shall be

1 required to use for the purchase of technology for accredited
2 nonpublic schools. The amount is based upon the percentage of
3 a school district's allocation that is equivalent to the
4 proportion that the basic enrollment of an accredited
5 nonpublic school bears to the basic enrollment of the school
6 district. The authorities in charge of an accredited
7 nonpublic school that is requesting technology must annually
8 certify its actual enrollment to the department of education
9 by October 1. By October 15, the department shall notify the
10 board of directors of each school district of the maximum
11 amount of its allocation that shall be made available for
12 purchasing technology for accredited nonpublic schools. The
13 amount expended for technology for nonpublic schools cannot
14 exceed the per pupil cost of the program of the district of
15 attendance.

16 Prior to receiving technology, the authorities in charge of
17 an accredited nonpublic school must adopt, and file with the
18 department of education, a technology plan that supports
19 school improvement technology efforts and includes an
20 evaluation component. The plan shall be developed by licensed
21 professional staff of the school, including both teachers and
22 administrators. The plan shall, at a minimum, focus on the
23 attainment of student achievement goals under Code sections
24 280.12 and 280.18 and shall demonstrate how the school will
25 utilize technology to improve student achievement. An
26 accredited nonpublic school needs to develop only one plan
27 until Code chapter 295 is repealed, which is July 1, 2001.

28 Though the current definition of "school district", for
29 purposes of the program, includes the Iowa braille and sight
30 saving school, the state school for the deaf, the Price
31 laboratory school at the university of northern Iowa, and the
32 institutions under the control of the department of human
33 services as provided in Code section 218.1, subsections 1
34 through 3, 5, 7, and 8, this bill specifically exempts those
35 special schools and institutions.