

MAR 3 1999

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE  
BY FREVERT

496

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act providing requirements for enrollment in a driver  
2 education course offered by a public school district.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 496

1 Section 1. Section 321.178, subsection 1, unnumbered  
2 paragraph 3, Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

3 Every public school district in Iowa shall offer or make  
4 available to all students residing in the school district or  
5 Iowa students attending a nonpublic school in the district an  
6 approved course in driver education. A student shall not be  
7 enrolled in an approved course unless the student has  
8 completed with passing grades the equivalent of at least four  
9 semesters of coursework, since beginning the seventh grade, in  
10 English language arts, social studies, mathematics, or  
11 science.

12 PARAGRAPH DIVIDED. The approved courses may be offered at  
13 sites other than at the public school, including nonpublic  
14 school facilities within the public school districts. An  
15 approved course offered during the summer months, on  
16 Saturdays, after regular school hours during the regular terms  
17 or partly in one term or summer vacation period and partly in  
18 the succeeding term or summer vacation period, as the case may  
19 be, shall satisfy the requirements of this section to the same  
20 extent as an approved course offered during the regular school  
21 hours of the school term. A student who successfully  
22 completes and obtains certification in an approved course in  
23 driver education or an approved course in motorcycle education  
24 may, upon proof of such fact, be excused from any field test  
25 which the student would otherwise be required to take in  
26 demonstrating the student's ability to operate a motor  
27 vehicle. A student shall not be excused from any field test  
28 if a parent, guardian, or instructor requests that a test be  
29 administered. Street or highway driving instruction may be  
30 provided by a person qualified as a classroom driver education  
31 instructor or a person certified by the department of  
32 transportation. The department of transportation shall adopt  
33 rules pursuant to chapter 17A to provide for certification of  
34 persons qualified to provide street or highway driving  
35 instruction and for administering requested field tests.

EXPLANATION

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This bill requires a student to complete with passing grades the equivalent of at least four semesters of coursework, since beginning the seventh grade, in English language arts, social studies, mathematics, or science before the student may enroll in an approved course in driver education offered by a public school district.