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HSB 155

EDUCATION

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HOUSE FILE

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION BILL BY CHAIR-
PERSON GRUNDBERG)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to teacher shortage areas, establishing a teacher
2 shortage area forgivable loan and fund, and providing for
3 teacher recruitment and preparation, professional development
4 and planning time for teachers, content area requirements for
5 teacher licensure, and a task force to study the use of
6 retired professionals as mentors and teacher aides.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 256.9, Code 1999, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 49. Conduct an ongoing study, in
4 consultation with the board of educational examiners, to
5 enable the director to project future teacher and endorsement
6 shortage areas.

7 NEW SUBSECTION. 50. Develop, in consultation with the
8 area education agencies, a statewide assistance support
9 network to provide school districts with assistance in
10 identifying future teachers and encouraging and facilitating
11 their successful admission to a practitioner preparation
12 program.

13 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 256.17 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND
14 PLANNING TIME PILOT PROJECT.

15 The general assembly finds that classroom management has
16 increased in difficulty and complexity. Where once
17 heterogeneous groups of children populated Iowa's classrooms,
18 today's students are from diverse racial, ethnic, and social
19 backgrounds. Behavioral disorders and special education needs
20 have multiplied. Teachers must be prepared to manage
21 classrooms well, to communicate with and engage parents in
22 their child's education, to assess students' developmental
23 needs, and to organize and work in teams. To meet these
24 needs, a pilot project for professional development and
25 planning time is established under the control of the
26 department of education, subject to an appropriation of
27 sufficient funds by the general assembly.

28 The board of directors of a school district may request
29 approval from the state board of education to establish a
30 pilot project that extends the school year by twenty days to
31 provide professional educators and administrators employed by
32 the district more opportunities and time for professional
33 development and planning.

34 The request shall describe the anticipated additional costs
35 to the school district and the benefits to be gained from

1 extending the school calendar to a two-hundred-day minimum.
2 Students in a pilot project school district shall not be
3 required to attend school more than one hundred eighty days or
4 the equivalent each school year.

5 Participation in a pilot project shall not modify
6 provisions of a master contract negotiated between a school
7 district and a certified bargaining unit pursuant to chapter
8 20 unless mutually agreed to by the parties.

9 If moneys are appropriated by the general assembly for
10 funding the costs of pilot projects under this section, the
11 state board of education shall notify the department of
12 revenue and finance of the amounts to be paid to each school
13 district with an approved pilot project.

14 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 261.114 TEACHER SHORTAGE AREA
15 FORGIVABLE LOAN PROGRAM.

16 1. Subject to an appropriation of sufficient funds by the
17 general assembly, a teacher shortage area forgivable loan
18 program is established to be administered by the college
19 student aid commission. An individual is eligible for the
20 forgivable loan program if the individual is a resident of
21 this state who is enrolled in an approved practitioner
22 preparation program or an approved graduate practitioner
23 preparation program in a designated area in which teacher
24 shortages are anticipated, at an institution of higher
25 learning under the control of the state board of regents or an
26 accredited private institution as defined in section 261.9.

27 2. The director of the department of education shall
28 annually designate the areas in which teacher shortages are
29 anticipated.

30 3. Each applicant shall, in accordance with the rules of
31 the commission, do the following:

32 a. Complete and file an application for a teacher shortage
33 area forgivable loan. The individual shall be responsible for
34 the submission of the parents' confidential statement, if
35 appropriate, for processing to both the commission and the

1 institution in which the applicant is enrolling.

2 b. Report promptly to the commission any information
3 requested.

4 c. File a new application and, if appropriate, a parents'
5 confidential statement, annually on the basis of which the
6 applicant's eligibility for the renewed forgivable loan will
7 be evaluated and determined.

8 4. Forgivable loans to eligible students shall not become
9 due until after the student graduates or leaves school. The
10 individual's total loan amount, including principal and
11 interest, shall be reduced by twenty percent for each year in
12 which the individual remains an Iowa resident and is employed
13 by a school district or an accredited nonpublic school as a
14 practitioner in the area for which the loan was approved. If
15 the commission determines that the person does not meet the
16 criteria for forgiveness of the principal and interest
17 payments, the commission shall establish a plan for repayment
18 of the principal and interest over a ten-year period. If a
19 person required to make the repayment does not make the
20 required payments, the commission shall provide for payment
21 collection. Rules adopted by the commission for the
22 administration of this program shall provide for payment
23 postponement for individuals experiencing temporary hardship.

24 5. The amount of a teacher shortage area forgivable loan
25 shall not exceed three thousand dollars annually, or the
26 amount of the student's established financial need, whichever
27 is less.

28 6. The interest rate for the forgivable loan shall be
29 equal to the interest rate collected by an eligible lender
30 under the Iowa guaranteed student loan program for the year in
31 which the forgivable loan is made.

32 7. A teacher shortage area forgivable loan repayment fund
33 is created for deposit of payments made by forgivable loan
34 recipients who do not fulfill the conditions of the forgivable
35 loan program and any other moneys appropriated to or received

1 by the commission for deposit in the fund. Notwithstanding
2 section 8.33, moneys deposited in the fund shall not revert to
3 the general fund of the state at the end of any fiscal year
4 but shall remain in the forgivable loan repayment fund and be
5 continuously available to make additional loans under the
6 program. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2,
7 interest or earnings on moneys deposited in the fund shall be
8 credited to the fund.

9 8. For purposes of this section, unless the context
10 otherwise requires, "teacher" means the same as defined in
11 section 272.1.

12 Sec. 4. Section 272.2, Code 1999, is amended by adding the
13 following new subsections:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 17. Adopt rules requiring candidates for
15 initial Iowa licensure as secondary school teachers to
16 successfully complete content area reading coursework.

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 18. Adopt rules for the alternative
18 licensure of content area specialists in subject or service
19 shortage areas.

20 Sec. 5. Section 272.3, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1999,
21 is amended to read as follows:

22 The board of educational examiners consists of eleven
23 thirteen members. ~~Two~~ Four must be members of the general
24 public and the remaining nine must be licensed practitioners.
25 ~~One-of-the-public~~ Public members shall ~~also-be~~ include the
26 director of the department of education, or the director's
27 designee, ~~The-other-public-member-shall-be~~ a person who does
28 not hold a practitioner's license, but has a demonstrated
29 interest in education, a person from a list of nominees
30 submitted to the governor by the state board of regents, and a
31 person from a list of nominees submitted to the governor by
32 the Iowa association of independent colleges and universities.
33 The nine practitioners shall be selected from the following
34 areas and specialties of the teaching profession:

35 Sec. 6. Section 272.3, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code 1999,

1 is amended to read as follows:

2 A majority of the licensed practitioner members shall be
3 nonadministrative practitioners. Four of the members shall be
4 administrators. Membership of the board shall comply with the
5 requirements of sections 69.16 and 69.16A. A quorum of the
6 board shall consist of ~~six~~ seven members. The director of the
7 department of education shall serve as the chairperson of the
8 board. Members, except for the director of the department of
9 education, shall be appointed by the governor and the
10 appointments are subject to confirmation by the senate.

11 Sec. 7. Section 272.4, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1999,
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 Members, except for the director of the department of
14 education, shall be appointed to serve staggered terms of four
15 years. A member shall not serve more than two consecutive
16 terms, except for the director of the department of education,
17 who shall serve until the director's term of office expires.
18 A member of the board, except for the ~~two~~ four public members,
19 shall hold a valid practitioner's license during the member's
20 term of office. A vacancy exists when any of the following
21 occur:

22 Sec. 8. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STUDY. The director of
23 the department of education shall appoint a task force to
24 study the issues and feasibility of establishing a volunteer
25 program to encourage retired teachers and administrators to
26 return to education as mentors and aides in school districts.
27 The chairperson of the task force shall be the director of the
28 department of education, or the director's designee. The task
29 force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
30 chairpersons and the ranking members of the senate and house
31 standing committees on education by January 15, 2000.

32 Sec. 9. FINDINGS. The general assembly finds that the
33 state suffers severe teacher shortages in certain fields, and
34 is concerned that within five years, the nation will face an
35 overall shortage of teachers. The general assembly therefore

1 encourages school districts to ensure their future ability to
2 hire qualified professional practitioners by establishing
3 future teacher associations and by supporting teachers and
4 secondary school students who participate in these
5 associations.

6 Sec. 10. STUDY REQUEST. The general assembly hereby
7 requests the Iowa association of colleges of teacher education
8 to study and report its findings to the standing senate
9 committee on education and house committee on education by
10 January 15, 2000, on the following: field experiences,
11 including the current number of hours required by each of the
12 approved practitioner programs within the state, whether the
13 institutions expect to increase or decrease the required
14 hours, and the characteristics of the experiences provided;
15 the method of collaboration between approved practitioner
16 preparation programs and local school districts, and between
17 approved practitioner preparation programs and other content
18 area-related colleges within their institutions; and faculty
19 interaction, including the current number of contact hours
20 with school districts and beginning teachers that each of the
21 approved practitioner programs within the state requires of
22 its faculty members, whether the institutions expect to
23 increase or decrease the required hours, and the
24 characteristics of the professional contact.

25 EXPLANATION

26 This bill is largely based upon the recommendations of the
27 teacher preparation study committee, which met during the 1998
28 legislative interim.

29 The bill includes the following:

30 Code section 256.9, subsections 49 and 50: Increases the
31 duties of the director of education by requiring the director
32 to conduct an ongoing study, in consultation with the board of
33 educational examiners, to enable the director to project
34 future practitioner shortage areas; and to develop, in
35 consultation with the area education agencies, a statewide

1 assistance support network to provide school districts with
2 assistance in identifying, encouraging, and facilitating
3 future teachers.

4 Code section 256.17: Establishes a professional
5 development and planning time pilot project under the control
6 of the department of education, subject to an appropriation of
7 sufficient funds by the general assembly.

8 Under this provision, the board of directors of a school
9 district may request approval from the state board of
10 education for a pilot project that extends the school year by
11 20 days to provide professional educators and administrators
12 employed by the district more opportunities and time for
13 professional development and planning. The application must
14 describe the anticipated additional costs to the school
15 district and the benefits to be gained from extending the
16 school calendar to a 200-day minimum. Students would not be
17 required to attend school more than 180 days or the equivalent
18 each school year. Participation does not modify provisions of
19 a master contract negotiated between a school district and a
20 certified bargaining unit unless mutually agreed to by the
21 parties.

22 Code section 261.114: Establishes, subject to an
23 appropriation of sufficient funds by the general assembly, a
24 teacher shortage area forgivable loan program to be
25 administered by the college student aid commission. The
26 program will be available to Iowa residents who are enrolled
27 in approved practitioner preparation programs in a designated
28 area in which teacher shortages are anticipated, at a regents
29 university or an accredited private institution.

30 The bill requires the director of the department of
31 education to annually designate the areas in which teacher
32 shortages are anticipated.

33 Forgivable loans to eligible students shall not become due
34 until after the student graduates or leaves school. The
35 individual's total loan amount, including principal and

1 interest, shall be reduced by 20 percent for each year in
2 which the individual remains an Iowa resident and is employed
3 by a school district or an accredited nonpublic school as a
4 teacher in the area for which the loan was approved. If the
5 commission determines that the person does not meet the
6 criteria for forgiveness of the principal and interest
7 payments, the commission shall establish a plan for repayment
8 of the principal and interest over a 10-year period. If a
9 person required to make the repayment does not make the
10 required payments, the commission shall provide for payment
11 collection.

12 The amount of a teacher shortage area forgivable loan shall
13 not exceed \$3,000 annually, or the amount of the student's
14 established financial need, whichever is less. The interest
15 rate for the forgivable loan shall be equal to the interest
16 rate collected by an eligible lender under the Iowa guaranteed
17 student loan program for the year in which the forgivable loan
18 is made.

19 A teacher shortage area forgivable loan repayment fund is
20 created for deposit of payments made by forgivable loan
21 recipients who do not fulfill the conditions of the forgivable
22 loan program. Moneys deposited in the forgivable loan
23 repayment fund shall not revert to the general fund of the
24 state at the end of any fiscal year.

25 Code section 272.2: Directs the board of educational
26 examiners to adopt rules requiring candidates for initial Iowa
27 licensure as secondary school teachers to successfully
28 complete content area reading coursework, and to adopt rules
29 for the alternative licensure of content area specialists in
30 subject or service shortage areas.

31 Code sections 272.3, unnumbered paragraphs 1 and 2, and
32 272.4, unnumbered paragraph 1: Increases from 11 to 13 the
33 membership of the board of educational examiners. One new
34 member will be a person from a list of nominees submitted to
35 the governor by the state board of regents, and the other will

1 be a person from a list of nominees submitted to the governor
2 by the Iowa association of independent colleges and
3 universities.

4 The bill also includes session law requiring or requesting,
5 as appropriate, the following:

6 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TASK FORCE. The director of the
7 department of education to appoint a task force to study the
8 issues and feasibility of establishing a volunteer program to
9 encourage retired teachers and administrators to return to
10 education as mentors and aides in school districts. The task
11 force is to report its findings and recommendations to the
12 chairpersons and the ranking members of the senate and house
13 standing committees on education by January 15, 2000.

14 FINDINGS. The bill includes the findings of the general
15 assembly and its concerns relating to current severe teacher
16 shortages in certain fields and a future overall shortage of
17 teachers. The general assembly encourages school districts to
18 ensure their future ability to hire qualified professional
19 practitioners by establishing future teacher associations and
20 by supporting teachers and secondary school students who
21 participate in these associations.

22 STUDY REQUEST. The Iowa association of colleges of teacher
23 education is requested to study and report its findings to the
24 standing senate committee on education and house committee on
25 education by January 15, 2000, on the following: field
26 experiences; the method of collaboration between approved
27 practitioner preparation programs and local school districts,
28 and between approved practitioner preparation programs and
29 other content area-related colleges within their institutions;
30 and faculty interaction.

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MAR 11 1999
APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE FILE 625
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 155)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to teacher shortage areas and the board of
2 educational examiners, establishing a teacher shortage
3 forgivable loan and fund, providing for teacher recruitment
4 and preparation, and a task force to study the use of retired
5 professionals as mentors and teacher aides, making an
6 appropriation, and providing an effective date.

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

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HF 625

1 Section 1. COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION. There is
2 appropriated from the general fund of the state to the college
3 student aid commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
4 1999, and ending June 30, 2000, the following amount, or so
5 much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purpose
6 designated:

7 For the teacher shortage forgivable loan program
8 established in section 261.111:

9 \$ 250,000

10 Sec. 2. Section 256.9, Code 1999, is amended by adding the
11 following new subsection:

12 NEW SUBSECTION. 49. Conduct an ongoing study, in
13 consultation with the board of educational examiners, to
14 enable the director to project future teacher and endorsement
15 shortage areas.

16 Sec. 3. Section 261.25, subsection 4, Code 1999, is
17 amended by striking the subsection.

18 Sec. 4. Section 261.111, Code 1999, is amended by striking
19 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

20 261.111 TEACHER SHORTAGE FORGIVABLE LOAN PROGRAM.

21 1. A teacher shortage forgivable loan program is
22 established to be administered by the college student aid
23 commission. An individual is eligible for the forgivable loan
24 program if the individual is a resident of this state who is
25 enrolled as a sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student
26 in an approved practitioner preparation program in a
27 designated area in which teacher shortages are anticipated, at
28 an institution of higher learning under the control of the
29 state board of regents or an accredited private institution as
30 defined in section 261.9.

31 2. The director of the department of education shall
32 annually designate the areas in which teacher shortages are
33 anticipated. The director shall periodically conduct a survey
34 of school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and
35 approved practitioner preparation programs to determine

1 current shortage areas and predict future shortage areas.

2 3. Each applicant shall, in accordance with the rules of
3 the commission, do the following:

4 a. Complete and file an application for a teacher shortage
5 forgivable loan. The individual shall be responsible for the
6 prompt submission of any information required by the
7 commission.

8 b. File a new application and submit information as
9 required by the commission annually on the basis of which the
10 applicant's eligibility for the renewed forgivable loan will
11 be evaluated and determined.

12 4. Forgivable loans to eligible students shall not become
13 due until after the student graduates or leaves school. The
14 individual's total loan amount, including principal and
15 interest, shall be reduced by twenty percent for each year in
16 which the individual remains an Iowa resident and is employed
17 in Iowa by a school district or an accredited nonpublic school
18 as a practitioner in the teacher shortage area for which the
19 loan was approved. If the commission determines that the
20 person does not meet the criteria for forgiveness of the
21 principal and interest payments, the commission shall
22 establish a plan for repayment of the principal and interest
23 over a ten-year period. If a person required to make the
24 repayment does not make the required payments, the commission
25 shall provide for payment collection.

26 5. The amount of a teacher shortage forgivable loan shall
27 not exceed three thousand dollars annually, or the amount of
28 the student's established financial need, whichever is less.

29 6. The commission shall prescribe by rule the interest
30 rate for the forgivable loan.

31 7. A teacher shortage forgivable loan repayment fund is
32 created for deposit of payments made by forgivable loan
33 recipients who do not fulfill the conditions of the forgivable
34 loan program and any other moneys appropriated to or received
35 by the commission for deposit in the fund. Notwithstanding

1 section 8.33, moneys deposited in the fund shall not revert to
2 the general fund of the state at the end of any fiscal year
3 but shall remain in the forgivable loan repayment fund and be
4 continuously available to make additional loans under the
5 program. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2,
6 interest or earnings on moneys deposited in the fund shall be
7 credited to the fund.

8 8. For purposes of this section, unless the context
9 otherwise requires, "teacher" means the same as defined in
10 section 272.1.

11 Sec. 5. Section 272.3, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1999,
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 The board of educational examiners consists of ~~eleven~~
14 thirteen members. ~~Two~~ Four must be members of the general
15 public and the remaining nine must be licensed practitioners.
16 ~~One-of-the-public~~ Public members shall ~~also-be~~ include the
17 director of the department of education, or the director's
18 designee, ~~The-other-public-member-shall-be~~ a person who does
19 not hold a practitioner's license, but has a demonstrated
20 interest in education, a person from a list of nominees
21 submitted to the governor by the state board of regents, and a
22 person from a list of nominees submitted to the governor by
23 the Iowa association of independent colleges and universities.
24 The nine practitioners shall be selected from the following
25 areas and specialties of the teaching profession:

26 Sec. 6. Section 272.3, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code 1999,
27 is amended to read as follows:

28 A majority of the licensed practitioner members shall be
29 nonadministrative practitioners. Four of the members shall be
30 administrators. Membership of the board shall comply with the
31 requirements of sections 69.16 and 69.16A. A quorum of the
32 board shall consist of ~~six~~ seven members. The director of the
33 department of education shall serve as the chairperson of the
34 board. Members, except for the director of the department of
35 education, shall be appointed by the governor and the

1 appointments are subject to confirmation by the senate.

2 Sec. 7. Section 272.4, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1999,
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 Members, except for the director of the department of
5 education, shall be appointed to serve staggered terms of four
6 years. A member shall not serve more than two consecutive
7 terms, except for the director of the department of education,
8 who shall serve until the director's term of office expires.
9 A member of the board, except for the ~~two~~ four public members,
10 shall hold a valid practitioner's license during the member's
11 term of office. A vacancy exists when any of the following
12 occur:

13 Sec. 8. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STUDY. The director of
14 the department of education shall appoint a task force to
15 study the issues and feasibility of establishing a volunteer
16 program to encourage retired teachers and administrators to
17 return to education as mentors and aides in school districts.
18 The chairperson of the task force shall be the director of the
19 department of education, or the director's designee. The task
20 force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
21 chairpersons and the ranking members of the senate and house
22 standing committees on education by January 15, 2000.

23 Sec. 9. FINDINGS. The general assembly finds that the
24 state suffers severe teacher shortages in certain fields, and
25 is concerned that within five years, the nation will face an
26 overall shortage of teachers. The general assembly therefore
27 encourages school districts to ensure their future ability to
28 hire qualified professional practitioners by establishing
29 future teacher associations and by supporting teachers and
30 secondary school students who participate in these
31 associations.

32 Sec. 10. STUDY REQUEST. The general assembly hereby
33 requests the Iowa association of colleges of teacher education
34 to study and report its findings to the standing senate
35 committee on education and house committee on education by

1 January 15, 2000, on the following: field experiences,
2 including the current number of hours required by each of the
3 approved practitioner programs within the state, whether the
4 institutions expect to increase or decrease the required
5 hours, and the characteristics of the experiences provided;
6 the method of collaboration between approved practitioner
7 preparation programs and local school districts, and between
8 approved practitioner preparation programs and other content
9 area-related colleges within their institutions; and faculty
10 interaction, including the current number of contact hours
11 with school districts and beginning teachers that each of the
12 approved practitioner programs within the state requires of
13 its faculty members, whether the institutions expect to
14 increase or decrease the required hours, and the
15 characteristics of the professional contact.

16 Sec. 11. REMAINING INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY FORGIVABLE LOAN
17 PROGRAM BALANCE. Notwithstanding section 8.33 or section
18 261.25, subsection 4, Code 1999, or any other provision to the
19 contrary, unencumbered or unobligated funds remaining on June
20 30, 1999, for purposes of the industrial technology forgivable
21 loan program established in section 261.111, shall be
22 available to the college student aid commission for
23 expenditure for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and
24 for succeeding fiscal years for the purposes of the teacher
25 shortage forgivable loan program established in section
26 261.111.

27 Sec. 12. Section 261.112, Code 1999, is repealed.

28 Sec. 13. EFFECTIVE DATE. This section and section 11 of
29 this Act, relating to the remaining industrial technology
30 forgivable loan program balance, being deemed of immediate
31 importance, take effect upon enactment.

32 EXPLANATION

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34 This bill related to teacher preparation and recruitment
35 and includes the following:

1 Code section 256.9, subsection 49: Requires the director
2 of the department of education to conduct an ongoing study, in
3 consultation with the board of educational examiners, to
4 enable the director to project future teacher and endorsement
5 shortage areas.

6 Code sections 261.111 and 261.112 and section 261.25,
7 subsection 4: Strike and repeal language creating the
8 industrial technology forgivable loan program and fund and
9 establish a teacher shortage forgivable loan program to be
10 administered by the college student aid commission. The
11 program will be available to Iowa residents who are enrolled
12 in approved practitioner preparation programs in a designated
13 area in which teacher shortages are anticipated, at a regents
14 university or an accredited private institution.

15 The bill requires the director of the department of
16 education to annually designate the areas in which teacher
17 shortages are anticipated.

18 Forgivable loans to eligible students shall not become due
19 until after the student graduates or leaves school. The
20 individual's total loan amount, including principal and
21 interest, shall be reduced by 20 percent for each year in
22 which the individual remains an Iowa resident and is employed
23 by a school district or an accredited nonpublic school as a
24 teacher in the teacher shortage area for which the loan was
25 approved. If the commission determines that the person does
26 not meet the criteria for forgiveness of the principal and
27 interest payments, the commission shall establish a plan for
28 repayment of the principal and interest over a 10-year period.
29 If a person required to make the repayment does not make the
30 required payments, the commission shall provide for payment
31 collection.

32 The amount of a teacher shortage area forgivable loan shall
33 not exceed \$3,000 annually, or the amount of the student's
34 established financial need, whichever is less. The interest
35 rate for the forgivable loan shall be determined by the

1 commission by rule.

2 A teacher shortage forgivable loan repayment fund is
3 created for deposit of payments made by forgivable loan
4 recipients who do not fulfill the conditions of the forgivable
5 loan program. Moneys deposited in the forgivable loan
6 repayment fund shall not revert to the general fund of the
7 state at the end of any fiscal year.

8 The bill includes an appropriation of \$250,000 from the
9 general fund of the state for FY 1999-2000 for the forgivable
10 loan program, and requires that money remaining in the
11 industrial technology forgivable loan fund from FY 1998-1999,
12 carries over for the teacher shortage forgivable loan program
13 for FY 1999-2000 and for succeeding fiscal years. This
14 provision takes effect upon enactment. The bill strikes a
15 standing appropriation for the industrial technology
16 forgivable loan program.

17 Code sections 272.3, unnumbered paragraphs 1 and 2, and
18 section 272.4, unnumbered paragraph 1: Increase from 11 to 13
19 the membership of the board of educational examiners. One new
20 member will be a person from a list of nominees submitted to
21 the governor by the state board of regents, and the other will
22 be a person from a list of nominees submitted to the governor
23 by the Iowa association of independent colleges and
24 universities.

25 The bill also includes session law requiring or requesting,
26 as appropriate, the following:

27 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TASK FORCE. The director of the
28 department of education to appoint a task force to study the
29 issues and feasibility of establishing a volunteer program to
30 encourage retired teachers and administrators to return to
31 education as mentors and aides in school districts. The task
32 force is to report its findings and recommendations to the
33 chairpersons and the ranking members of the senate and house
34 standing committees on education by January 15, 2000.

35 FINDINGS. The bill includes the findings of the general

1 assembly and its concerns relating to current severe teacher
2 shortages in certain fields and a future overall shortage of
3 teachers. The general assembly encourages school districts to
4 ensure their future ability to hire qualified professional
5 practitioners by establishing future teacher associations and
6 by supporting teachers and secondary school students who
7 participate in these associations.

8 STUDY REQUEST. The Iowa association of colleges of teacher
9 education is requested to study and report its findings to the
10 standing senate committee on education and house committee on
11 education by January 15, 2000, on the following: field
12 experiences; the method of collaboration between approved
13 practitioner preparation programs and local school districts,
14 and between approved practitioner preparation programs and
15 other content area-related colleges within their institutions;
16 and faculty interaction.

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