

EDUCATION  
FILED FEB 16 1999  
SENATE FILE 152  
BY REHBERG

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to interdistrict transportation of pupils  
2 participating in open enrollment.

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

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SF 152  
EDUCATION

1 Section 1. Section 282.18, subsection 10, Code 1999, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 10. Notwithstanding section 285.1 relating to  
4 transportation of nonresident pupils, the parent or guardian  
5 is responsible for transporting the pupil without  
6 reimbursement to and from a point on a regular school bus  
7 route of the receiving district. However, a receiving  
8 district may send school vehicles into the district of  
9 residence of the pupil using the open enrollment option under  
10 this section, for the purpose of transporting the pupil to and  
11 from school in the receiving district, if the boards of both  
12 the sending and receiving districts agree to this arrangement  
13 or if the receiving district advances no more than one mile  
14 into the sending district, subject to approval under section  
15 285.9, subsection 3. If the pupil meets the economic  
16 eligibility requirements established by the department and  
17 state board of education, the sending district is responsible  
18 for providing transportation or paying the pro rata cost of  
19 the transportation to a parent or guardian for transporting  
20 the pupil to and from a point on a regular school bus route of  
21 a contiguous receiving district unless the cost of providing  
22 transportation or the pro rata cost of the transportation to a  
23 parent or guardian exceeds the average transportation cost per  
24 pupil transported for the previous school year in the  
25 district. If the cost exceeds the average transportation cost  
26 per pupil transported for the previous school year, the  
27 sending district shall only be responsible for that average  
28 per pupil amount. A sending district which provides  
29 transportation for a pupil to a contiguous receiving district  
30 under this subsection may withhold from the district cost per  
31 pupil amount, that is to be paid to the receiving district, an  
32 amount which represents the average or pro rata cost per pupil  
33 for transportation, whichever is less.

34 EXPLANATION

35 This bill permits a receiving district to send school

1 vehicles into the district of residence to transport a pupil  
2 participating in open enrollment if the receiving district  
3 advances no more than one mile into the sending district,  
4 subject to the approval of the route by the area education  
5 agency. The Code requires each area education agency to  
6 approve all bus routes outside the boundary of the district of  
7 the school operating the buses.

8 Currently, a receiving district may send school vehicles  
9 into the district of residence in an open enrollment situation  
10 only if both districts agree to the arrangement.

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**SENATE FILE 152  
FISCAL NOTE****REQUESTED BY:  
SENATOR REHBERG**

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A fiscal note for Senate File 152 is hereby submitted pursuant to Joint Rule 17. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

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Senate File 152 permits school districts receiving open enrolled students to provide transportation service up to one mile within the sending district subject to the approval of the route by the Area Education Agency.

**BACKGROUND**

Currently, a district receiving open enrolled students may provide transportation service within the sending district provided both districts agree. The number of students filing for open enrollment during the 1998-1999 school year is 16,269.

**ASSUMPTIONS**

1. Transportation is provided twice per day for 180 days per school year.
2. Each transportation vehicle will travel an extra four miles per day.
3. Transportation cost per student per day is \$6.72, and per year it is \$1,209.60.
4. The total number of open enrolled students for the current school year is 16,269.
5. The number of open enrolled students living within one mile of the boundary of the receiving school district will vary, and no precise information on the number of students that would be eligible for the additional transportation service provided by the proposed legislation is collected by the Iowa Department of Education.
6. Many school districts have reciprocal agreements with neighboring districts for the transportation of open enrolled students. Other districts offer transportation service outside their borders provided the buses are not required to deviate from routes traveled to serve resident students.
7. There is no additional State aid provided to school districts electing to provide transportation service to open enrolled students.
8. The law change would take effect July 1, 1999.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Senate File 152 will result in no impact to the General Fund. The fiscal

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impact on local school districts will vary depending on the number of school districts that elect to offer the additional transportation service and the number of students that choose to use the service. If 10.0% of all eligible open enrolled students are offered and take advantage of the service, the additional cost incurred by school districts would equal approximately \$2.0 million per year in additional property taxes.

This proposal may result in additional students applying for open enrollment, but no estimate is available on the cost impact of additional open enrollment students.

SOURCE

Iowa Department of Education

North Winneshiek, Ventura, Bennett, and Northeast Hamilton school districts

(LSB 2216XS, MAL)

FILED MARCH 10, 1999

BY DENNIS PROUTY, FISCAL DIRECTOR