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SENATE FILE 2181

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a career opportunities and resources for
2 education grant program to be administered by the college
3 student aid commission and making an appropriation.

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

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SE 2181
EDUCATION

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261.22 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND
2 RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION GRANTS.

3 1. A career opportunities and resources for education
4 grant program is established to be administered by the college
5 student aid commission. An individual is eligible for the
6 grant program if the individual is a resident of this state
7 who is enrolled at a community college in a vocational program
8 designated as a career opportunities and resources for
9 education program in accordance with the provisions of this
10 section. The college student aid commission shall adopt rules
11 pursuant to chapter 17A to administer this section.

12 2. The department of economic development shall identify,
13 at least every four years, targeted industries that pay high
14 wages and offer excellent benefits and that correspond to
15 Iowa's areas of competitive advantage. The director of the
16 department of economic development shall submit this list of
17 targeted industries to the director of the department of
18 education.

19 3. The Iowa workforce development board shall identify, at
20 least every two years, targeted occupations associated with
21 the targeted industries identified by the department of
22 economic development pursuant to subsection 2. In determining
23 current and predicting future targeted occupations, the
24 director of the department of workforce development shall seek
25 the cooperation and expertise of, among others, the department
26 of economic development, the college student aid commission,
27 the Iowa state occupational information coordinating
28 committee, the department of education, business and
29 technology advisory councils, educators, labor organizations,
30 chambers of commerce, economic development professionals,
31 trade associations, and researchers. The director of the
32 department of workforce development shall submit the approved
33 list of targeted occupations to the director of the department
34 of education.

35 4. A community college may submit to the department of

1 education a proposal for designation as a career opportunities
2 and resources for education program. A proposed program may
3 be a new or existing community college program and shall meet
4 all of the following criteria:

5 a. The program educates students to meet or exceed the
6 prerequisites for employment in a targeted industry or
7 targeted occupation identified in accordance with this
8 section.

9 b. A business guarantees to provide matching cash or in-
10 kind contributions to the community college for the costs of
11 the program. The matching funds or in-kind contributions
12 shall be equivalent to, at a minimum, twenty percent of the
13 program costs. Matching funds shall not include tuition
14 assistance provided to a student who is employed by the
15 business.

16 c. The program has an agreement with a business whereby
17 the business pledges to provide intellectual assistance during
18 the program's development and implementation; internships,
19 externships, and scholarships to students in the program; and
20 hiring preferences to persons who successfully complete the
21 program.

22 5. The department of education and the department of
23 economic development shall develop a review and approval
24 process for the designation of community college programs as
25 career opportunities and resources for education programs.

26 6. To be eligible to receive a grant under this section,
27 an applicant shall, in accordance with the rules of the
28 commission, do the following:

29 a. Complete and file an application for a career
30 opportunities and resources for education grant. The
31 individual shall be responsible for the prompt submission of
32 any information required by the commission.

33 b. File a new application and submit information as
34 required by the commission annually on the basis of which the
35 applicant's eligibility for the renewed grant will be

1 evaluated and determined.

2 7. If a student receives financial aid from any source
3 other than the program established under this section, the
4 full amount of such financial aid shall be considered part of
5 the student's financial resources available in determining the
6 amount of the student's financial need for the period of the
7 financial aid. Grant moneys received by a student in
8 accordance with this section shall be used to pay the
9 student's cost of attendance, which includes community college
10 tuition and fees, materials, textbooks and supplies,
11 transportation, room and board, dependent care during the time
12 the person is in class, and the purchase or rental of a
13 computer.

14 8. The amount of the grant shall not exceed a student's
15 annual financial need or two thousand five hundred dollars,
16 whichever is less.

17 9. In order to be excused from repayment of the total
18 grant amount, a grant recipient shall remain a resident of the
19 state and be employed within the state, for a period of two
20 years after successful completion of a career opportunities
21 and resources for education program. If a grant recipient
22 changes residence to another state prior to the time specified
23 by the commission, the commission shall establish a plan for
24 repayment of the total grant amount, including an amount of
25 interest to be prescribed by the commission by rule, over a
26 ten-year period. If a person required to make the repayment
27 does not make the required payments, the commission shall
28 provide for payment collection.

29 10. The departments of economic development, education,
30 and workforce development, the college student aid commission,
31 and the community colleges with designated programs shall
32 jointly promote the career opportunities and resources for
33 education program to all appropriate populations.

34 11. A career opportunities and resources for education
35 repayment fund is created for deposit of payments made by

1 grant recipients who do not fulfill the conditions of the
2 commission's specified residency and employment requirements,
3 and for any other moneys appropriated to or received by the
4 commission for deposit in the fund. Notwithstanding section
5 8.33, moneys deposited in the fund shall not revert to the
6 general fund of the state at the end of any fiscal year,
7 except as provided in this paragraph, but shall remain in the
8 repayment fund and be continuously available to make
9 additional grants under the program. Notwithstanding section
10 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys deposited
11 in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Upon the repeal of
12 this section, moneys deposited in the fund and moneys due the
13 fund subsequent to the date of repeal shall be deposited in
14 the general fund of the state.

15 12. There is appropriated from the general fund of the
16 state to the college student aid commission the following:

17 a. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2000, and ending
18 June 30, 2001, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars for
19 the career opportunities and resources for education program.

20 b. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and each
21 year thereafter, the sum of one million dollars for the career
22 opportunities and resources for education program.

23 13. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
24 17A to administer this section.

25 14. This section is repealed on July 1, 2005.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill establishes a career opportunities and resources
28 for education (CORE) grant program to be administered by the
29 college student aid commission. The bill funds the program in
30 fiscal year 2000-2001 with a \$500,000 appropriation to the
31 commission from the general fund of the state, and increases
32 the appropriation to \$1 million annually thereafter. To be
33 eligible for a CORE grant, an individual must be a resident of
34 Iowa and enrolled at a community college in a designated CORE
35 vocational program.

1 TARGETED INDUSTRIES. The bill directs the department of
2 economic development to identify, at least every four years,
3 targeted industries that pay high wages and offer excellent
4 benefits and that correspond to Iowa's areas of competitive
5 industrial advantage. The director of the department of
6 economic development shall submit this list of targeted
7 industries to the director of the department of education.

8 TARGETED OCCUPATIONS. Every two years, under the bill, the
9 Iowa workforce development board must identify, with the
10 assistance of specified agencies and stakeholders, targeted
11 occupations associated with the targeted industries identified
12 by the department of economic development. The approved list
13 of targeted occupations must be submitted to the director of
14 the department of education.

15 DESIGNATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS. A community college
16 may submit to the department of education a proposal for
17 designation as a career opportunities and resources for
18 education program. A proposed program may be a new or
19 existing community college program and must educate students
20 to meet or exceed the prerequisites for employment in a
21 targeted industry or targeted occupation, must have a
22 business's guarantee to provide matching cash or in-kind
23 contributions to the community college for the costs of the
24 program in an amount equivalent to, at a minimum, 20 percent
25 of the program costs, and must have an agreement with a
26 business whereby the business pledges to provide intellectual
27 assistance during the program's development and
28 implementation; internships, externships, and scholarships to
29 students in the program; and hiring preferences to persons who
30 successfully complete the program.

31 The department of education and the department of economic
32 development must develop a review and approval process for the
33 designation of community college programs as CORE programs.

34 GRANT MONEY USES. Grant moneys received by a student shall
35 be used to pay the student's cost of attendance, including

1 community college tuition and fees, materials, textbooks and
2 supplies, transportation, room and board, dependent care
3 during the time the person is in class, and the purchase or
4 rental of a computer. The amount of the grant shall not
5 exceed a student's annual financial need or \$2,500, whichever
6 is less.

7 RESIDENCY AND EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT. In order to be
8 excused from repaying the grant amount, a grant recipient must
9 remain a resident of the state and be employed within the
10 state, for a period of two years after successful completion
11 of a CORE program. If a grant recipient changes residences to
12 another state prior to the time specified by the commission,
13 the commission shall establish a repayment plan for the
14 principal grant amount, with interest. If the person does not
15 make the required payments, the commission shall provide for
16 payment collection.

17 PROGRAM PROMOTION. The departments of economic
18 development, education, and workforce development, the college
19 student aid commission, and the community colleges with
20 designated CORE programs are required to jointly promote the
21 program.

22 REPAYMENT FUND ESTABLISHED. The bill also establishes a
23 CORE repayment fund for the deposit of payments made by grant
24 recipients who do not fulfill the commission's specified
25 residency requirements, and for any other moneys appropriated
26 to or received by the commission for deposit in the fund.
27 Moneys in the fund do not revert to the general fund of the
28 state at the end of any fiscal year, but remain available to
29 make additional CORE grants.

30 SUNSET. The Code section establishing the program is
31 repealed on July 1, 2005, with any receipts after that date
32 being deposited in the general fund of the state.

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