

FEB 6 2001
EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 201
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D. TAYLOR, and REYNOLDS

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to educational standards and waivers for school
2 districts and accredited nonpublic schools.

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

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HF 201

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, Code 2001, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. Unless a waiver has been obtained
4 under section 256.11A, each accredited nonpublic school or
5 school district shall have all of the following:

6 a. A media center in each attendance center accessible to
7 students throughout the school day and a qualified school
8 media services specialist who meets the licensing standards
9 prescribed by the board of educational examiners and who is
10 responsible for media center supervision.

11 b. An articulated sequential elementary-secondary guidance
12 program for grades kindergarten through twelve and a guidance
13 counselor who meets the licensing standards prescribed by the
14 board of educational examiners.

15 In determining the requirements of this subsection for an
16 accredited nonpublic school, the department shall evaluate the
17 accredited nonpublic school on an accredited nonpublic school
18 system basis rather than on an individual accredited nonpublic
19 school basis.

20 Sec. 2. Section 256.11A, subsection 1, Code 2001, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 1. Schools Accredited nonpublic schools and school
23 ~~districts unable-to-meet-the-standard-adopted-by-the-state~~
24 ~~board-requiring-each-school-or-school-district-operating-a~~
25 ~~kindergarten-through-grade-twelve-program-to-provide-an~~
26 ~~articulated-sequential-elementary-secondary-guidance-program~~
27 may, not later than August 1, 1995 2001, for the school year
28 beginning July 1, 1995 2001, file a written request to the
29 department of education that the department waive one or more
30 of the requirement-for requirements established in section
31 256.11, subsection 9, that an accredited nonpublic school or
32 school district have a media center and a qualified school
33 media services specialist and that an accredited nonpublic
34 school or school district operating a kindergarten through
35 grade twelve program provide an articulated sequential

1 elementary-secondary guidance program. The procedures
2 specified in subsection 3 apply to the request. Not later
3 than August 1, ~~1996~~ 2002, for the school year beginning July
4 1, ~~1996~~ 2002, the board of directors of a school district or
5 the authorities in charge of a nonpublic school may request a
6 one-year extension of the waiver.

7 Sec. 3. Section 256.11A, subsection 2, Code 2001, is
8 amended by striking the subsection.

9 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
10 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
11 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
12 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
13 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
14 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
15 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
16 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be
17 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
18 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill reestablishes a statutory requirement that each
21 accredited nonpublic school or school district have, unless a
22 waiver has been obtained, a media center in each attendance
23 center accessible to students throughout the school day, a
24 qualified school media services specialist responsible for
25 media center supervision, an articulated sequential
26 elementary-secondary guidance program for grades kindergarten
27 through 12, and a licensed guidance counselor. The bill
28 authorizes waivers to be requested for school year 2001-2002
29 or 2002-2003 if filed by August 1 of the respective year.

30 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
31 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any
32 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
33 district from state school foundation aid received by the
34 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
35 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state

1 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.
2 The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate
3 the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any
4 state mandates included in the bill.

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