

FEB 12 2002
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSE FILE 2285
BY HATCH, STEVENS, KREIMAN,
JOCHUM, WITT, FALLON,
SHOULTZ, and DOTZLER

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the formation of a business alliance network
2 by the institute for decision making at the university of
3 northern Iowa.

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

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HF-2285

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 268.6 BUSINESS ALLIANCE NETWORK.

2 1. The institute for decision making at the university of
3 northern Iowa shall establish a business alliance network.

4 The purpose of the business alliance network shall be to
5 enhance the ability of small businesses to collaborate with
6 other business or nonbusiness entities, either directly or
7 through access to the university's Iowa communications network
8 connection, in the areas of product development and research,
9 commercialization, and marketing.

10 2. The institute shall appoint a five-person board of
11 directors to oversee and administer the business alliance
12 network and develop rules and procedures for its operation.
13 Board members shall represent the public, private, and
14 academic sectors from across the state and possess experience
15 with the successful formation and operation of business
16 entities.

17 3. A business may apply for membership in the business
18 alliance network if the business is affiliated with a
19 community college as defined in section 260C.2, an institution
20 of higher learning under the control of the board of regents,
21 or an accredited private institution as defined in section
22 261.9. As used in this subsection, "affiliated" means the
23 business has some connection or involvement with an
24 institution which may include, but is not limited to,
25 participation in research projects, consultation with a school
26 of business, or enrollment of employees in a course of study.
27 A business applying for membership in the network shall submit
28 a copy of a business product and marketing plan for evaluation
29 by an independent private firm certified by the business
30 alliance network board as having expertise in performing such
31 evaluations. A favorable evaluation shall be a prerequisite
32 for business alliance network membership.

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EXPLANATION

34 This bill provides for the formation of a business alliance
35 network by the institute for decision making at the university

1 of northern Iowa.

2 The bill provides that the objective of the business
3 alliance network shall be to enhance the ability of small
4 businesses to collaborate with other business or nonbusiness
5 entities, either directly or via the Iowa communications
6 network, in the areas of product development and research,
7 commercialization, and marketing. The bill provides that the
8 institute shall appoint a five-person board of directors to
9 oversee and administer the business alliance network,
10 representing the public, private, and academic sectors from
11 across the state and possessing experience with the successful
12 formation and operation of business entities. The bill
13 provides that member businesses shall be affiliated with a
14 community college, an institution of higher learning under the
15 control of the board of regents, or an accredited private
16 institution, and shall have submitted a copy of a business
17 product and marketing plan which receives a favorable
18 evaluation by an independent private firm certified by the
19 business alliance network board as having expertise in
20 performing such evaluations.

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