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EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 58

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and DAVITT

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school districts and accredited nonpublic
2 schools to have media centers and specialists and an
3 elementary-secondary guidance program and providing for
4 waivers.

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

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HF 58

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 24, Code 2003, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 24. Adopt rules on or before January 1, 2001, to require
4 school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to adopt
5 local policies relating to health services, media services
6 programs, and guidance programs, as part of the general
7 accreditation standards applicable to school districts
8 pursuant to section 256.11. This subsection shall be
9 applicable strictly for reporting purposes and shall not be
10 interpreted to require school districts and accredited
11 nonpublic schools to provide or offer health services~~7-media~~
12 ~~services-programs7-or-guidance-programs~~.

13 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, Code 2003, is amended by adding
14 the following new subsection:

15 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. Unless a waiver has been obtained
16 under section 256.11A, each accredited nonpublic school or
17 school district shall have the following:

18 a. A media center in each attendance center accessible to
19 students throughout the school day and a qualified school
20 media services specialist who meets the licensing standards
21 prescribed by the board of educational examiners and who is
22 responsible for media center supervision.

23 b. An articulated sequential elementary-secondary guidance
24 program for grades kindergarten through twelve and a guidance
25 counselor who meets the licensing standards prescribed by the
26 board of educational examiners.

27 In determining the requirements of this subsection for an
28 accredited nonpublic school, the department shall evaluate the
29 accredited nonpublic school on an accredited nonpublic school
30 system basis rather than on an individual accredited nonpublic
31 school basis.

32 Sec. 3. Section 256.11A, subsection 1, Code 2003, is
33 amended to read as follows:

34 1. Schools Accredited nonpublic schools and school
35 districts ~~unable-to-meet-the-standard-adopted-by-the-state~~

1 ~~board-requiring-each-school-or-school-district-operating-a~~
2 ~~kindergarten-through-grade-twelve-program-to-provide-an~~
3 ~~articulated-sequential-elementary-secondary-guidance-program~~
4 may, not later than August 1, ~~1995~~ 2003, for the school year
5 beginning July 1, ~~1995~~ 2003, file a written request to the
6 department of education that the department waive one or more
7 of the requirement-for requirements established in section
8 256.11, subsection 9, that an accredited nonpublic school or
9 school district have a media center and a qualified school
10 media services specialist and that an accredited nonpublic
11 school or school district operating a kindergarten through
12 grade twelve program provide an articulated sequential
13 elementary-secondary guidance program. The procedures
14 specified in subsection 3 apply to the request. Not later
15 than August 1, ~~1996~~ 2004, for the school year beginning July
16 1, ~~1996~~ 2004, the board of directors of a school district or
17 the authorities in charge of a nonpublic school may request a
18 one-year extension of the waiver.

19 Sec. 4. Section 256.11A, subsection 2, Code 2003, is
20 amended by striking the subsection.

21 Sec. 5. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
22 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
23 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
24 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
25 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
26 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
27 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
28 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be
29 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
30 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill reestablishes a statutory requirement that each
33 accredited nonpublic school or school district have, unless a
34 waiver has been obtained, a media center in each attendance
35 center accessible to students throughout the school day, a

1 qualified school media services specialist responsible for
2 media center supervision, an articulated sequential
3 elementary-secondary guidance program for grades kindergarten
4 through 12, and a licensed guidance counselor. The bill
5 authorizes waivers to be requested for school year 2003-2004
6 and 2004-2005 if filed by August 1 of the respective year.

7 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
8 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any
9 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
10 district from state school foundation aid received by the
11 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
12 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state
13 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.
14 The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate
15 the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any
16 state mandates included in the bill.

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