

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY FORD

1 A Resolution encouraging the state board of regents to
2 establish a task force to develop a model athlete
3 recruitment policy and to review college
4 student-athlete graduation rates at the universities
5 under its control.

6 WHEREAS, college student-athletes must balance
7 their endeavors between academics and athletic
8 competition, making success in both challenging; and

9 WHEREAS, there is a significant gap between the
10 graduation rates of African-American student-athletes
11 and white student-athletes; and

12 WHEREAS, the national collegiate athletic
13 association tracks student-athlete graduation rates at
14 its member colleges and universities and promotes the
15 long-term importance of enrolling in and competing at
16 an institution with high student-athlete graduation
17 rates; and

18 WHEREAS, the state of Iowa values its student-
19 athletes and demands excellence in both academic
20 achievement and athletic competition; and

21 WHEREAS, Iowa state university, the university of
22 Iowa, and the university of northern Iowa enjoy
23 success in recruiting student-athletes in this state
24 and throughout the nation and have a stake in ensuring
25 continued success; NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
27 That the state board of regents is encouraged to
28 establish a task force to review college student-
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1 athlete graduation rates at the institutions of higher
2 education under the control of the state board of
3 regents, make recommendations on ways to improve
4 student-athlete graduation rates, and develop a model
5 athlete recruitment policy that at a minimum
6 establishes strong, clear standards and behavioral
7 expectations for recruiting visits. The task force
8 shall consider the disparities that exist in the
9 graduation rates of the various subgroups of student-
10 athletes. The task force shall review the current
11 policies and practices at the institutions to
12 determine whether the best practices are being used to
13 promote academic excellence. The task force shall
14 complete its review and submit its findings and
15 recommendations in a report to the general assembly by
16 January 15, 2005.

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