

FILED JUNE 14 2012

EDUCATION

SENATE FILE

2012

BY TINSMAN

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act adding an Iowa history requirement to the secondary  
2 education program.

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

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SF 2012 EDUCATION

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph b, Code  
2 2003, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. Five units of the social studies including instruction  
4 in voting statutes and procedures, voter registration  
5 requirements, the use of paper ballots and voting machines in  
6 the election process, and the method of acquiring and casting  
7 an absentee ballot. All students shall complete a minimum of  
8 one-half unit of United States government, one-half unit of  
9 Iowa history, and one unit of United States history. The one-  
10 half unit of United States government shall include the voting  
11 procedure as described in this lettered paragraph and section  
12 280.9A. The government instruction shall also include a study  
13 of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of  
14 Rights contained in the Constitution and an assessment of a  
15 student's knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of  
16 Rights.

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

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill requires school districts and nonpublic schools  
29 to offer coursework in Iowa history at the secondary level,  
30 and requires all secondary students to complete a minimum of  
31 one-half unit of Iowa history.

32 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
33 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any  
34 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school  
35 district from state school foundation aid received by the

1 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification  
2 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state  
3 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.  
4 The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate  
5 the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any  
6 state mandates included in the bill.

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