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HUMAN RESOURCES

SENATE FILE 2095

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the department of human services to comply with
2 national standards for social worker caseloads.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

SF 2095 HUMAN RESOURCES

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1 Section 1. Section 217.3, Code 2003, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. Adopt and phase in the implementation
4 of caseload standards so that the caseloads of social workers
5 who are employed by or contract with the department do not
6 exceed applicable caseload standards adopted by or recommended
7 by a recognized national accrediting body or professional
8 organization, including but not limited to the national
9 association of social workers, the council on accreditation,
10 and the child welfare league of America. The standards shall
11 be fully implemented on or before July 1, 2010.

12 Sec. 2. SOCIAL WORKER CASELOAD STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION
13 PLAN. The department of human services shall develop a plan
14 for approval by the council on human services for phased-in
15 implementation of the social worker caseload standards
16 required by section 217.3, subsection 9, as enacted by this
17 Act. The first phase of the plan shall be incorporated in the
18 department and council's budget recommendations for the fiscal
19 year beginning July 1, 2005. The plan shall be submitted to
20 the governor and general assembly on or before December 15,
21 2004.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill requires the department of human services to
24 adopt social worker caseload standards. The Code section
25 217.3 duties of the council on human services are amended to
26 direct the council to adopt and phase in caseload standards
27 with full implementation on or before July 1, 2010. The
28 caseload standards are required to conform to the applicable
29 standards adopted by or recommended by a national accrediting
30 body or professional organization, including the national
31 association of social workers, the council on accreditation,
32 and the child welfare league of America. The department is
33 directed to develop an implementation plan for approval by the
34 council and the budgets recommended by the department and
35 council for fiscal year 2005-2006 are required to incorporate

1 the first phase of the plan. The plan is required to be
2 submitted to the governor and general assembly by December 15,
3 2004.

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