

House Study Bill 698

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
BILL BY CHAIRPERSON SCHICKEL)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to ethical principles of public service for
2 public officials.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 6487HC 81
5 tm/cf/24

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 68B.1A ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF
1 2 PUBLIC SERVICE == PUBLIC OFFICIALS.
1 3 The general assembly finds all of the following:
1 4 1. That public officials should treat their office as a
1 5 public trust, using the powers and resources of public office
1 6 to advance public interests as distinct from private interests
1 7 incompatible with the public good.
1 8 2. That public officials should employ independent
1 9 objective judgment in performing their duties, deciding all
1 10 matters on the merits, free from conflicts of interest and
1 11 both real and apparent improper influences.
1 12 3. That public officials should assure that government is
1 13 conducted openly, efficiently, fairly, and honorably in a
1 14 manner that permits the citizens to make informed judgments
1 15 and hold officials accountable.
1 16 4. That public officials should honor and respect the
1 17 principles and spirit of representative democracy and set a
1 18 positive example of good citizenship by scrupulously observing
1 19 the letter and spirit of laws and rules.
1 20 5. That public officials should be dedicated to the ideals
1 21 of honesty, honor, and integrity in all public and personal
1 22 relationships in order that they may merit the respect and
1 23 confidence of all citizens.

EXPLANATION

1 24 This bill relates to ethical principles of public service
1 25 for public officials.
1 26 The bill provides for ethical principles of public service
1 27 in Code chapter 68B, which relates to governmental ethics.
1 28 The ethical principles include treating public office as a
1 29 public trust, employing independent objective judgment,
1 30 assuring that government is conducted openly, honoring and
1 31 respecting the principles and spirit of representative
1 32 democracy, and being dedicated to the ideals of honesty,
1 33 honor, and integrity in all public and personal relationships.
1 34
1 35 LSB 6487HC 81
2 1 tm:nh/cf/24