

FILED FEB 06 2006

EDUCATION

SENATE FILE 2150

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DOTZLER, HOUSER, and KIBBIE

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act eliminating a waiver for early school starts.  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 257.17, Code 2005, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 257.17 AID REDUCTION FOR EARLY SCHOOL STARTS.

4 State aid payments made pursuant to section 257.16 for a  
5 fiscal year shall be reduced by one one-hundred-eightieth for  
6 each day of that fiscal year for which the school district  
7 begins school before the earliest starting date specified in  
8 section 279.10, subsection 1. ~~However, this section does not~~  
9 ~~apply to a school district that has received approval from the~~  
10 ~~director of the department of education under section 279.10,~~  
11 ~~subsection 4, to commence classes for regularly established~~  
12 ~~elementary and secondary schools in advance of the starting~~  
13 ~~date established in section 279.10, subsection 1.~~

14 Sec. 2. Section 279.10, subsection 2, Code 2005, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 2. The board of directors shall hold a public hearing on  
17 any ~~proposal~~ request made pursuant to subsection 3 prior to  
18 submitting it to the department of education for approval.

19 Sec. 3. Section 279.10, subsection 4, Code 2005, is  
20 amended by striking the subsection.

21 EXPLANATION

22 This bill eliminates the authority of the director of the  
23 department of education to grant a request made by a board of  
24 directors of a school district to commence classes prior to  
25 the earliest starting date allowed, which is no sooner than a  
26 day during the calendar week in which the first day of  
27 September falls or, if the first day of September falls on a  
28 Sunday, a day during the prior week. The bill makes a  
29 conforming change to eliminate an exemption from aid reduction  
30 for early school starts that school districts qualify for if  
31 they are granted a waiver from the school start date. Without  
32 the waiver, the school district's state aid payments are  
33 reduced by 1/180 for each day of that fiscal year for which  
34 the school district begins school before the earliest starting  
35 date allowed. The bill includes a technical correction.