

House File 160 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY FORD

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the state board of regents to conduct a
2 statewide study of the kindergarten through grade twelve
3 school system to determine and recommend best strategies to
4 improve student achievement.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
6 TLSB 2049HH 82
7 kh/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. STATE BOARD OF REGENTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
1 2 STUDY.
1 3 1. If funding is approved or appropriated to the state
1 4 board of regents for purposes of conducting a student
1 5 achievement study as provided in this subsection, the state
1 6 board shall use the educational, economic, social, and
1 7 political knowledge resources of its institutions of higher
1 8 education to organize and conduct a comprehensive, statewide
1 9 study of Iowa's kindergarten through grade twelve educational
1 10 system to determine the best strategies for improving overall
1 11 student achievement and reducing achievement gaps between
1 12 racial and socioeconomic groups of children. The goal of the
1 13 study shall be to establish a blueprint for the general
1 14 assembly and education leaders to follow that maximizes
1 15 student achievement regardless of racial, ethnic, cultural,
1 16 socioeconomic, and geographic differences of Iowa's
1 17 communities. The department of education, area education
1 18 agencies, community colleges, and school districts shall
1 19 assist the state board of regents in its efforts in gathering
1 20 and processing the necessary data and in gaining access to and
1 21 input from educational personnel, students, parents, and
1 22 community leaders throughout the state.
1 23 2. The state board shall develop plans for conducting the
1 24 study set forth in subsection 1, including recommendations for
1 25 funding the study and for a completion date for the study, and
1 26 shall submit the plans and recommendations in a report to the
1 27 legislative fiscal committee by the committee's October 2007
1 28 meeting.

EXPLANATION

1 29
1 30 The bill directs the state board of regents to organize and
1 31 conduct a comprehensive, statewide study of Iowa's
1 32 kindergarten through grade 12 educational system to determine
1 33 the best strategies for improving overall student achievement
1 34 and reducing achievement gaps between racial and socioeconomic
1 35 groups of children, but only if the legislative council or
2 1 general assembly provides funding for the study. The bill
2 2 directs the department of education, area education agencies,
2 3 community colleges, and school districts to assist the state
2 4 board in gathering and processing the necessary data and in
2 5 gaining access to and input from stakeholders for the study.
2 6 The state board must develop plans for conducting the
2 7 study, including recommendations for a completion date for the
2 8 study and for funding the study, and must submit the plans and
2 9 recommendations in a report to the legislative fiscal
2 10 committee by the committee's October 2007 meeting.
2 11 LSB 2049HH 82
2 12 kh:nh/je/5