

House File 175

HOUSE FILE _____
BY D. OLSON

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an efficiency in higher education Act.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
3 TLSB 1177HH 82
4 kh/gg/14

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261E.1 TITLE.
1 2 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the
1 3 "Efficiency in Higher Education Act".
1 4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 261E.2 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS ==
1 5 INTENT.
1 6 1. The general assembly finds and declares as follows:
1 7 a. Iowa's current and prospective employers have greater
1 8 expectations for the knowledge and skills base of Iowa's
1 9 workforce.
1 10 b. The demand continues to grow for baccalaureate degrees
1 11 as Iowans realize that the challenge of a global economy will
1 12 only be met by well-educated people.
1 13 c. Iowa's community colleges are an essential partner in
1 14 meeting this demand.
1 15 d. It is essential to establish policies and procedures in
1 16 the public higher education system that provide for efficient
1 17 transfer of courses, credits, and prerequisites for academic
1 18 majors.
1 19 e. The state universities must facilitate the efficient
1 20 and effective progression and transfer of students from
1 21 community colleges to baccalaureate education.
1 22 2. Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly to
1 23 improve statewide coordination of transfer and articulation.
1 24 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 261E.3 TRANSFER AND ARTICULATION
1 25 COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED.
1 26 1. A transfer and articulation committee is established.
1 27 The committee shall consist of the following members:
1 28 a. The president, or the president's designee, of each
1 29 community college established pursuant to chapter 260C.
1 30 b. The president, or the president's designee, of each
1 31 institution of higher education governed by the state board of
1 32 regents.
1 33 c. Three members who shall be appointed by the president
1 34 of the state board of regents to represent the institutions of
1 35 higher education governed by the board.
2 1 2. a. A vacancy on the committee shall be filled by
2 2 appointment in the same manner as the original appointment.
2 3 b. Members appointed pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph
2 4 "c", shall serve four-year staggered terms which shall begin
2 5 at 12:01 a.m. on May 1 in the year of appointment and expire
2 6 at 12:00 midnight on April 30 in the year of expiration.
2 7 3. The committee shall elect a chairperson and vice
2 8 chairperson. Meetings may be called by the chairperson or a
2 9 majority of the members.
2 10 4. Members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary
2 11 expenses incurred while engaged in their official duties.
2 12 Expense payments shall be made from appropriations to the
2 13 state board of regents.
2 14 5. The department of education and the state board of
2 15 regents shall provide staff assistance and administrative
2 16 support to the committee.
2 17 6. The committee shall do all of the following:
2 18 a. Develop a methodology to review all existing and future
2 19 articulation agreements between the community colleges and the
2 20 state universities governed by the state board of regents.
2 21 b. Establish a uniform system to streamline and make the

2 22 transfer of credits from the community colleges to the state
2 23 universities transparent and verifiable for students
2 24 contemplating or completing coursework.
2 25 c. Develop a uniform course numbering system and uniform
2 26 course descriptions to allow easy comparison of courses
2 27 offered by the community colleges and state universities.
2 28 7. The committee may establish subcommittees to which the
2 29 committee may delegate some or all of its responsibilities
2 30 under subsection 6.
2 31 8. The committee shall submit a progress report to the
2 32 general assembly by January 15, 2008, and by January 15, 2009,
2 33 and thereafter shall report to the general assembly biennially
2 34 regarding its activities.

2 35 Sec. 4. INITIAL TERMS OF MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE
3 1 PRESIDENT OF THE STATE BOARD OF REGENTS. The initial members
3 2 of the transfer and articulation committee appointed by the
3 3 president of the state board of regents shall be appointed to
3 4 the following terms:
3 5 1. One member shall be appointed for a term of four years.
3 6 2. One member shall be appointed for a term of three
3 7 years.
3 8 3. One member shall be appointed for a term of two years.

3 9 EXPLANATION

3 10 This bill establishes an efficiency in higher education Act
3 11 to improve statewide coordination of transfer and articulation
3 12 of students and course or program content between community
3 13 colleges and the institutions of higher education governed by
3 14 the state board of regents.

3 15 The bill states the legislative findings and intent leading
3 16 to the establishment of a 20-member transfer and articulation
3 17 committee consisting of the presidents from all of the 14
3 18 community colleges, or their designees, the presidents of all
3 19 three state universities, or their designees, and three
3 20 members appointed by the president of the state board of
3 21 regents who also represent the state universities.

3 22 Members shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary
3 23 expenses incurred while engaged in their official duties.
3 24 Expense payments shall be made from appropriations to the
3 25 state board of regents. The department of education and the
3 26 state board of regents shall provide staff assistance and
3 27 administrative support to the committee.

3 28 The committee is charged with developing a methodology to
3 29 review all existing and future articulation agreements between
3 30 the community colleges and the state universities,
3 31 establishing a uniform system to streamline and make the
3 32 transfer of credits transparent and verifiable for students
3 33 contemplating or completing coursework, and developing a
3 34 uniform course numbering system and uniform course
3 35 descriptions to allow easy comparison of courses offered by
4 1 the community colleges and state universities.

4 2 The committee must submit a progress report to the general
4 3 assembly by January 15, 2008, and by January 15, 2009, and
4 4 thereafter a biennial report of its activities.

4 5 LSB 1177HH 82

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