

Senate Study Bill 1272

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION BILL REQUESTED
BY CONNOLLY)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school districts and accredited nonpublic
2 schools to provide articulated sequential guidance programs
3 and providing for a waiver.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 1801SS 82
6 kh/es/88

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1 1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 24, Code 2007, is
1 2 amended to read as follows:

1 3 24. Adopt rules ~~on or before January 1, 2001,~~ to require
1 4 school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to adopt
1 5 local policies relating to health services, ~~media services~~
~~1 6 programs, and guidance~~ programs, as part of the general
1 7 accreditation standards applicable to school districts
1 8 pursuant to section 256.11. This subsection shall be
1 9 applicable strictly for reporting purposes and shall not be
1 10 interpreted to require school districts and accredited
1 11 nonpublic schools to provide or offer health services, ~~media~~
~~1 12 services programs, or guidance~~ programs.

1 13 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, Code 2007, is amended by adding
1 14 the following new subsection:

1 15 NEW SUBSECTION. 9A. Beginning July 1, 2007, each school
1 16 district and accredited nonpublic school shall provide an
1 17 articulated sequential guidance program for grades
1 18 kindergarten through twelve. Guidance counselors under the
1 19 program must be licensed by the board of educational examiners
1 20 under chapter 272. In determining the requirements for
1 21 accredited nonpublic schools, the department shall evaluate
1 22 the schools on a school system basis rather than on an
1 23 individual school basis.

1 24 Sec. 3. Section 256.11A, Code 2007, is amended by adding
1 25 the following new subsection:

1 26 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. The board of directors of a school
1 27 district and the authorities in charge of an accredited
1 28 nonpublic school may, not later than August 1, 2007, for the
1 29 school year beginning July 1, 2007, file a written request to
1 30 the department of education that the department waive the
1 31 requirement adopted by the state board pursuant to section
1 32 256.11, subsection 9A, that the school district have an
1 33 articulated sequential guidance program for grades
1 34 kindergarten through twelve. The procedures specified in
1 35 subsection 2 apply to the request. Not later than August 1,
2 1 2008, for the school year beginning July 1, 2008, the board of
2 2 directors of a school district or the authorities in charge of
2 3 an accredited nonpublic school may request a one-year
2 4 extension of the waiver.

2 5 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
2 6 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
2 7 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
2 8 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
2 9 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
2 10 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
2 11 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
2 12 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be
2 13 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
2 14 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.

2 15 EXPLANATION

2 16 This bill requires school districts and accredited
2 17 nonpublic schools to provide an articulated sequential

2 18 guidance program for grades kindergarten through 12. Guidance
2 19 counselors must be licensed by the board of educational
2 20 examiners. Accredited nonpublic schools are to be evaluated
2 21 by the department on a school system basis rather than on an
2 22 individual school basis. The bill authorizes the school
2 23 districts and schools to request, and the department to grant,
2 24 a waiver for the 2007=2008 school year and an extension for
2 25 the 2008=2009 school year.

2 26 The bill includes a conforming change to Code section
2 27 256.7.

2 28 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
2 29 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any
2 30 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
2 31 district from state school foundation aid received by the
2 32 school district under section 257.16. The specification is
2 33 deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
2 34 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
2 35 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
3 1 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
3 2 mandates included in the bill.

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