

**House File 2049 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2049

BY MAY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring the administering of end-of-course  
2 examinations for certain secondary school subject areas.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code Supplement 2009, is amended  
2 by adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 30. Adopt rules by July 1, 2011, to  
4 require school districts and accredited nonpublic schools  
5 to administer the end-of-course examinations developed by  
6 the director pursuant to section 256.9, subsection 59, to  
7 students as a condition of graduation. The rules shall provide  
8 for a timeline for the implementation of the end-of-course  
9 examinations by school districts and accredited nonpublic  
10 schools.

11 Sec. 2. Section 256.9, subsection 52, paragraph a, Code  
12 Supplement 2009, is amended to read as follows:

13 a. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area  
14 education agencies, core curriculum technical assistance and  
15 implementation strategies that school districts and accredited  
16 nonpublic schools shall utilize, ~~including but not limited to~~  
17 ~~the development and delivery of formative and end-of-course~~  
18 ~~model assessments classroom teachers may use to measure~~  
19 student progress on the core curriculum adopted pursuant to  
20 section 256.7, subsection 26, in addition to the end-of-course  
21 examinations administered in accordance with section 256.7,  
22 subsection 30. The department shall, in collaboration with the  
23 advisory group convened in accordance with paragraph "b" and  
24 educational assessment providers, identify and make available  
25 to school districts ~~end-of-course and additional model~~  
26 ~~end-of-course and additional~~ assessments to align with the  
27 expectations included in the Iowa core curriculum. The model  
28 assessments shall be suitable to meet the multiple assessment  
29 measures requirement specified in section 256.7, subsection 21,  
30 paragraph "c".

31 Sec. 3. Section 256.9, Code Supplement 2009, is amended by  
32 adding the following new subsection:

33 NEW SUBSECTION. 59. a. Develop, in consultation with  
34 kindergarten through grade sixteen education stakeholders, at  
35 least one end-of-course examination in each of the following

1 core curriculum subject areas at the secondary school level:  
2 mathematics, language arts, and science. The end-of-course  
3 examinations shall be aligned with the core content standards  
4 developed for the subject areas pursuant to section 256.7,  
5 subsection 28.

6 *b.* In developing the end-of-course examinations, the  
7 director shall convene a task force to identify best practices  
8 for the adoption of end-of-course examinations, determine the  
9 levels of support necessary to prepare teachers and students  
10 for the examinations, and identify the costs of administering  
11 end-of-course examinations in mathematics, language arts,  
12 and science at the secondary school level. The task force  
13 shall review the end-of-course examination requirements of  
14 other states and the advantages and disadvantages other states  
15 have realized in developing, implementing, and administering  
16 end-of-course examinations, including but not limited to  
17 the costs of preparing students for the examinations and of  
18 developing, implementing, and administering the examinations;  
19 and the purposes and goals other states have established  
20 for the examinations. The task force shall be comprised of  
21 kindergarten through grade sixteen education stakeholders. The  
22 task force shall submit its findings and recommendations in  
23 a report to the state board of education, the governor, and  
24 the general assembly by January 17, 2011. This paragraph is  
25 repealed on July 1, 2011.

26 **Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED.** In accordance  
27 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring  
28 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall  
29 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid  
30 received by the school district under section 257.16. This  
31 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed  
32 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of  
33 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding  
34 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act  
1 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school

2 districts.

3

EXPLANATION

4 This bill directs the director of the department of  
5 education to develop, in consultation with a task force of  
6 kindergarten through grade 16 education stakeholders, at  
7 least one end-of-course examination in each of the following  
8 core curriculum subject areas at the secondary school level:  
9 mathematics, language arts, and science. The task force  
10 must submit its findings and recommendations to the state  
11 board of education, the governor, and the general assembly by  
12 January 17, 2011. The state board of education is required to  
13 adopt rules by July 1, 2011, to require school districts and  
14 accredited nonpublic schools to administer the end-of-course  
15 examinations to students as a condition of graduation. The  
16 rules shall provide for a timeline for the implementation  
17 of the end-of-course examinations by school districts and  
18 accredited nonpublic schools. The bill includes a conforming  
19 amendment.

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