

Senate File 136 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 136

BY HATCH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the creation of an office of the chancellor
2 to administer the Iowa higher education system under the
3 direction of the state board of regents.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 262.100 System established —
2 definitions.

3 1. The Iowa higher education system is established under
4 the direction of the state board of regents. The system shall
5 be comprised of the universities governed by the state board
6 of regents.

7 2. As used in this division, unless the context otherwise
8 requires:

9 a. "Iowa higher education system" or "system" means the
10 universities governed by the state board of regents.

11 b. "President" means the president of a university in the
12 system governed by the state board.

13 c. "State board" means the state board of regents.

14 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 262.101 Chancellor — appointment —
15 qualifications and compensation.

16 1. The chief executive officer of the Iowa higher education
17 system shall be the chancellor, who shall serve as the
18 primary link between the state board and the presidents of
19 the universities on matters of board policy and institutional
20 operations. The chancellor shall ensure that all policies
21 related to the system are uniformly carried out in a fair and
22 equitable manner.

23 2. The chancellor shall be appointed by the governor to
24 serve at the pleasure of the governor, subject to confirmation
25 by the senate. The chancellor shall serve for a four-year
26 term beginning and ending as provided in section 69.19.

27 The appointment shall be made without regard for political
28 affiliation and without regional or institutional bias. The
29 chancellor shall not be a member of any local, state, or
30 national committee of a political party, an officer or member
31 of a committee in any partisan political club or organization,
32 or hold or be a candidate for a paid elective public office.
33 The governor shall fill a vacancy in this office in the same
34 manner as the original appointment.

35 3. The chancellor shall possess a background in

1 postsecondary education and at least five years' experience in
2 the field of management.

3 4. The chancellor, following consultation with the
4 state board, may employ necessary personnel and fix their
5 compensation.

6 5. If a person appointed chancellor pursuant to this
7 section is a tenured faculty member employed by a university
8 in the system, the person may retain tenure status while
9 serving as chancellor. If, immediately prior to appointment
10 as chancellor pursuant to this section, the chancellor was
11 a tenured professor at an accredited private institution in
12 Iowa or at an accredited university in another state, the
13 governor may direct that a university in the system assign the
14 chancellor an academic rank of professor, commensurate with
15 the chancellor's academic qualifications, and confer tenure
16 upon the chancellor. The state board shall fix the salary of
17 the chancellor. The chancellor shall not receive, in addition
18 to the salary or compensation fixed by the state board, any
19 additional compensation or benefits for employment in a tenured
20 assignment at a university.

21 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 262.102 **Duties and responsibilities**
22 **of chancellor.**

23 1. Under the direction of the state board, the chancellor
24 shall do the following:

25 a. Provide vision and overall leadership for the system and
26 a single focus of accountability to the state and its citizens.

27 b. Promote and preserve the overall mission and goals of the
28 system.

29 c. Work with each president to do the following:

30 (1) Develop and submit to the state board proposals for
31 short-term and long-term planning goals, policies, and actions
32 which serve the best interests of the system.

33 (2) Promulgate guidelines and procedures for the consistent
34 interpretation and application of state board policies and
35 rules directed at the system's universities.

1 (3) Develop inter-institutional cooperative academic and
2 operational programs and services designed to reduce costs
3 while improving efficiencies and accountability.

4 (4) Plan, build, and sustain appropriate academic and
5 co-curricular programs and initiatives to minimize duplication
6 and link system resources to state, regional, and national
7 needs.

8 *d.* Annually monitor and evaluate the performance of each
9 president.

10 *e.* Monitor and evaluate each system university's mission and
11 progress in accomplishing its established goals.

12 *f.* Serve as the system advocate and as liaison between the
13 system and the governor, the general assembly, the state board,
14 Iowa's citizens, and other stakeholders in matters relating to
15 the capacity of the system to meet the priorities of the state
16 and in matters not reserved to the state board.

17 *g.* Communicate the needs of the state and state board
18 policies to the system community, including but not limited to
19 the presidents and all subordinate administrative officers and
20 personnel employed by the universities.

21 *h.* Provide oversight and performance evaluations relating
22 to academic policy, planning, and quality assessment; capital
23 planning and construction; budgeting; human resource policy and
24 compliance; institutional research; intellectual property and
25 patents; risk management; auditing; legal services; information
26 technology systems; and legislative and community relations.

27 *i.* Administer the academic, financial, and other functions
28 of the system in a manner that assures support for the approved
29 mission of each university in the system.

30 *j.* Direct the activities of each president in such a way
31 as to support the general welfare of the system while ensuring
32 support for the approved mission of each university.

33 *k.* Balance, to the extent reasonably possible, the competing
34 interests of the universities.

35 *l.* Provide a forum which encourages system presidents to

1 offer advice to the chancellor regarding matters affecting the
2 system.

3 *m.* Ensure cooperation between system universities to
4 encourage efforts to improve academic offerings, expand access
5 to education, promote faculty development, improve support
6 services, and increase efficiency throughout the system.

7 *n.* Exercise such other authority and perform such other
8 responsibilities as may be assigned by the state board.

9 2. The chancellor, with or without specific direction from
10 the state board, shall do the following:

11 *a.* Execute and administer the policies, decisions, and rules
12 promulgated by the state board.

13 *b.* Prepare recommendations, in collaboration with the
14 presidents, for the state board's consideration relating
15 to matters including but not limited to policy, personnel,
16 compensation, tenure, and terms of employment for all system
17 personnel.

18 *c.* Exercise administrative control, consonant with state
19 board policy, over inter-institutional matters including but
20 not limited to university budgets, curriculum, research, public
21 service, and extension activities.

22 *d.* Appoint, determine the composition of, and delegate
23 duties to such committees or councils as the chancellor deems
24 advisable.

25 *e.* Act on behalf of the state board during the interim
26 between state board meetings. However, the chancellor shall
27 promptly inform the president of the state board of any action
28 taken by the chancellor and shall submit the action for state
29 board approval at the next following state board meeting.

30 *f.* Act on behalf of the state board to request opinions from
31 the attorney general's office and coordinate all legal services
32 of the universities.

33 3. The chancellor may consult with university constituency
34 groups on matters the chancellor deems appropriate.

35

EXPLANATION

1 This bill creates an office of the chancellor to administer
2 the Iowa higher education system, which is comprised of
3 the three state universities governed by the state board of
4 regents.

5 The chancellor serves as the chief executive officer of the
6 system and as the primary link between the state board and
7 the presidents of the universities on matters of board policy
8 and institutional operations. The chancellor is charged with
9 ensuring that all policies related to the system are uniformly
10 carried out in a fair and equitable manner. The chancellor,
11 following consultation with the state board, may employ
12 necessary personnel and fix their compensation.

13 The chancellor shall be appointed by the governor to serve
14 a four-year term at the pleasure of the governor, subject to
15 confirmation by the senate. The appointment must be made
16 without regard for political affiliation and without regional
17 or institutional bias. The chancellor shall not be a member of
18 any local, state, or national committee of a political party
19 or a partisan political club or organization, or hold or be
20 a candidate for a paid elective public office. The governor
21 shall fill a vacancy in this office in the same manner as
22 the original appointment. The chancellor shall possess a
23 background in postsecondary education and at least five years'
24 experience in the field of management.

25 If a person appointed chancellor is a tenured faculty member
26 employed by a system university, the person may retain tenure
27 status while serving as chancellor. If, immediately prior
28 to appointment as chancellor, the chancellor was a tenured
29 professor at an accredited private institution in Iowa or
30 at an accredited university in another state, the governor
31 may direct that a system university assign the chancellor an
32 academic rank of professor, commensurate with the chancellor's
33 academic qualifications, and confer tenure upon the chancellor.
34 The state board shall fix the salary of the chancellor. The
35 chancellor shall not receive, in addition to the salary

1 or compensation fixed by the state board, any additional
2 compensation or benefits for employment in a tenured assignment
3 at a university.

4 Under the direction of the state board, the chancellor shall
5 provide vision, accountability, and overall leadership for the
6 system; annually monitor and evaluate each president and each
7 system university's mission and progress in accomplishing its
8 established goals; serve as the system advocate and as liaison
9 between the system and stakeholders; communicate the needs of
10 the state and board policies to the system community; provide
11 oversight and performance evaluations relating to academic
12 policy, planning, quality assessment, capital planning and
13 construction, budgeting, human resource policy and compliance,
14 institutional research, intellectual property and patents,
15 risk management, auditing, legal services, information
16 technology systems, and legislative and community relations;
17 administer the academic, financial, and other functions of
18 the system in a manner that assures support for the approved
19 mission of each system university; direct the activities of
20 each president to support the general welfare of the system
21 while ensuring support for the approved mission of each
22 university; balance, to the extent reasonably possible, the
23 competing interests of the universities; provide a forum which
24 encourages system presidents to offer advice to the chancellor
25 regarding matters affecting the system; ensure cooperation
26 between system universities to encourage efforts to improve
27 academic offerings, expand access to education, promote faculty
28 development, improve support services, and increase efficiency
29 throughout the system; and exercise such other authority and
30 perform such other responsibilities as may be assigned by the
31 state board.

32 The chancellor is also directed to work with each president
33 to plan, build, and sustain appropriate academic and
34 co-curricular programs and initiatives to minimize duplication
35 and link system resources to society's needs, develop and

1 submit to the state board proposals for short-term and
2 long-term planning goals, policies, and actions which serve
3 the best interests of the system, promulgate guidelines and
4 procedures for the consistent interpretation and application
5 of state board policies and rules directed at the system's
6 universities, develop inter-institutional cooperative academic
7 and operational programs and services designed to reduce costs
8 while improving efficiencies and accountability.

9 The chancellor, with or without specific direction from
10 the state board, shall execute and administer the policies,
11 decisions, and rules promulgated by the state board; prepare
12 recommendations, in collaboration with the presidents, for
13 the state board's consideration relating to matters including
14 but not limited to policy, personnel, compensation, tenure,
15 and terms of employment for all system personnel; exercise
16 administrative control, consonant with state board policy,
17 over inter-institutional matters including but not limited
18 to university budgets, curriculum, research, public service,
19 and extension activities; appoint, determine the composition
20 of, and delegate duties to such committees or councils as the
21 chancellor deems advisable; act on behalf of the state board
22 during the interim between state board meetings and to request
23 opinions from the attorney general's offices and to coordinate
24 all legal services of the universities. The chancellor may
25 consult with university constituency groups on matters the
26 chancellor deems appropriate.