

House File 309 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 309

BY KELLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the attainment of high-performance
2 certification applicable to elementary and secondary public
3 school buildings.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 297.7A High-performance
2 certification.

3 1. A school district commencing the design or construction
4 of, or commencing the substantial renovation of, an elementary
5 or secondary public school building on or after July 1, 2015,
6 shall apply for certification of the construction or renovation
7 project pursuant to the United States green building council's
8 leadership in energy and environmental design program. The
9 application shall be submitted under either the rating system
10 applicable for schools or for new construction, as determined
11 most appropriate by the school district. The school district
12 shall undertake a good-faith effort to meet the minimum
13 standards applicable for achievement of the program's silver
14 certification level and is encouraged to seek certification
15 qualifying for the gold or platinum certification levels.
16 A school district may apply for certification under an
17 alternative high-performance energy certification program,
18 instead of applying for certification pursuant to the United
19 States green building council's leadership in energy and
20 environmental design program, provided the alternative program
21 incorporates comparable certification standards applicable to
22 new building construction or substantial renovation.

23 2. In addition to the requirement in subsection 1, a
24 school district shall register all existing elementary or
25 secondary public school buildings for certification pursuant
26 to the United States green building council's leadership in
27 energy and environmental design existing buildings operation
28 and maintenance program, and pursue certification for
29 each school building to the extent practicable. A school
30 district may apply for certification under an alternative
31 high-performance energy certification program, instead of
32 applying for certification pursuant to the United States green
33 building council's leadership in energy and environmental
34 design program, provided the alternative program incorporates
35 comparable certification standards applicable to existing

1 building operation and maintenance.

2 3. Each school district shall notify the department of
3 education by September 15 annually regarding the number of
4 projects or buildings for which certification was sought, if
5 any, and the results and level of certification achieved.
6 The department shall submit a report to the general assembly
7 summarizing the information provided by January 1 annually.

8

EXPLANATION

9 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
10 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

11 This bill requires a school district commencing the design
12 or construction of, or commencing the substantial renovation
13 of, an elementary or secondary public school building on or
14 after July 1, 2015, to apply for certification of the building
15 or project pursuant to the United States green building
16 council's leadership in energy and environmental design
17 program. The school district may submit the application under
18 either the program's rating system applicable for schools or
19 for new construction, as determined most appropriate by the
20 school district. The bill provides that the school district
21 shall undertake a good-faith effort to meet the minimum
22 standards applicable for achievement of the program's silver
23 certification level and is encouraged to seek certification
24 qualifying for the gold or platinum certification levels.
25 The bill also requires a school district to register all
26 existing elementary or secondary public school buildings for
27 certification pursuant to the United States green building
28 council's leadership in energy and environmental design
29 existing buildings operation and maintenance program, and
30 pursue certification for each school building to the extent
31 practicable.

32 The bill provides that a school district may apply for
33 certification under an alternative high-performance energy
34 certification program, instead of applying for certification
35 pursuant to the United States green building council's

1 leadership in energy and environmental design program,
2 provided the alternative program incorporates comparable
3 certification standards applicable to new building construction
4 or substantial renovation and existing building operation and
5 maintenance.

6 The bill requires each school district to notify the
7 department of education by September 15 annually regarding the
8 number of projects or buildings for which certification was
9 sought, if any, and the results and level of certification
10 achieved. The department shall submit a report to the general
11 assembly summarizing the information provided by January 1
12 annually.