

House File 418 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 418

BY SALMON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the requirements a student must fulfill to
2 successfully complete a practitioner preparation program.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (2), Code 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) Administer, prior to a student's completion of the
4 practitioner preparation program and subject to the director's
5 approval, subject assessments designed by a nationally
6 recognized testing service that measure pedagogy and knowledge
7 of at least one subject area; or, a valid and reliable
8 subject-area-specific, performance-based assessment for
9 preservice teacher candidates, centered on student learning.
10 A student shall not successfully complete the program unless
11 the student, at any time during the student's course of study,
12 achieves scores above the twenty-fifth percentile nationally
13 on the assessments administered pursuant to this subparagraph.
14 In lieu of the assessment requirements of this subparagraph, a
15 student who is preparing to teach in a hard-to-staff subject
16 area as identified by the department may demonstrate mastery
17 of pedagogy and knowledge of subject area through a student
18 portfolio.

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill provides that a student who, at any time
23 during the student's course of study in a practitioner
24 preparation program, achieves a score above the 25th percentile
25 nationally on a valid and reliable subject-area-specific,
26 performance-based assessment for preservice teacher candidates,
27 shall be able to use the score to complete the program even
28 if the department of education subsequently recalculates and
29 updates the passing score based on the most recent data on
30 scores achieved nationally on the assessment. In lieu of
31 the assessment requirements, the bill allows a student who
32 is preparing to teach in a hard-to-staff subject area as
33 identified by the department to demonstrate mastery of pedagogy
34 and knowledge of subject area through a student portfolio.