

Senate File 2131 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2131
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3030)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act expanding the Iowa learning online initiative to
2 include students receiving independent private instruction,
3 competent private instruction, or private instruction and
4 providing for related fees.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.42, subsections 1, 5, and 8, Code
2 2018, are amended to read as follows:

3 1. An Iowa learning online initiative is established
4 within the department to partner with school districts and
5 accredited nonpublic schools to provide distance education
6 to high school students statewide. The initiative may also
7 provide distance education to a student receiving independent
8 private instruction as defined in section 299A.1, subsection
9 1, paragraph "b", competent private instruction under section
10 299A.2, or private instruction by a nonlicensed person under
11 section 299A.3. The department shall utilize a variety of
12 content repositories, including those maintained by the area
13 education agencies and the public broadcasting division, in
14 administering the initiative.

15 5. Under the initiative, ~~students~~ a student must be
16 enrolled in a participating school district or accredited
17 nonpublic school, ~~which~~ or be receiving private instruction
18 under chapter 299A as described in subsection 1. For a student
19 enrolled in a participating school district or accredited
20 nonpublic school, the school district or school is responsible
21 for recording grades received for initiative coursework in a
22 student's permanent record, awarding high school credit for
23 initiative coursework, and issuing high school diplomas to
24 ~~students~~ a student enrolled in the district or school who
25 ~~participate~~ participates and ~~complete~~ completes coursework
26 under the initiative. Each participating school shall identify
27 a site coordinator to serve as a student advocate and as a
28 liaison between the initiative staff and teachers and the
29 school district or accredited nonpublic school. The individual
30 providing instruction to a student under [chapter 299A](#) as
31 described in subsection 1 shall receive the student's score for
32 completed initiative coursework.

33 8. The department shall establish fees payable by school
34 districts, ~~and~~ accredited nonpublic schools participating
35 in, and individuals providing instruction to students under

1 chapter 299A as described in subsection 1, for coursework
2 offered under the initiative. Fees collected pursuant to
3 this subsection are appropriated to the department to be
4 used only for the purpose of administering **this section** and
5 ~~shall be established so as not to exceed the budgeted cost of~~
6 ~~administering **this section** to the extent not covered by the~~
7 ~~moneys appropriated in **subsection 9**.~~ Providing professional
8 development necessary to prepare teachers to participate in the
9 initiative shall be considered a cost of administering this
10 section. Notwithstanding **section 8.33**, fees collected by the
11 department that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close
12 of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available
13 for expenditure for the purpose of expanding coursework offered
14 under the initiative in subsequent fiscal years.

15 Sec. 2. Section 256.42, subsection 9, Code 2018, is amended
16 by striking the subsection.

17

EXPLANATION

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

20 This bill expands the Iowa learning online initiative to
21 allow a student receiving independent private instruction,
22 competent private instruction by a licensed practitioner, or
23 private instruction by a nonlicensed person to participate
24 and complete coursework under the initiative if the parent,
25 guardian, or legal custodian providing such instruction pays
26 to the initiative the fee established by the department of
27 education for such coursework.

28 Under the bill, the individuals providing the instruction
29 will receive the student's scores for completed coursework.

30 Currently, only school districts and accredited nonpublic
31 schools may partner with the initiative to provide distance
32 education to high school students.

33 Obsolete provisions relating to the appropriation of moneys
34 in prior fiscal years are stricken.