

**House File 598 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 598  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 197)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the assignment of pupils who are siblings to  
2 classrooms by school districts.

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

1 Section 1. Section 279.11, Code 2019, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **279.11 Number of schools — attendance — terms — classroom**  
4 **assignment.**

5 1. The board of directors shall determine the number of  
6 schools to be taught, divide the corporation into such wards or  
7 other divisions for school purposes as may be proper, determine  
8 the particular school which each child shall attend, and  
9 designate the period each school shall be held beyond the time  
10 required by law.

11 2. Prior to assigning siblings who are enrolled in  
12 kindergarten through grade five and deemed by the school  
13 district to be at the same grade level academically to  
14 a classroom, a school district shall require school  
15 administrators to consult with, and give deference to, the  
16 parents or guardians of the siblings, to determine whether the  
17 siblings shall be assigned to the same classroom.

18 EXPLANATION

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

21 This bill requires school districts to require its  
22 administrators, prior to assigning siblings to a classroom when  
23 the siblings are enrolled in kindergarten through grade five  
24 and are academically at the same grade level, to consult with  
25 and give deference to the parents or guardians of the siblings,  
26 when determining whether the siblings shall be assigned to the  
27 same classroom.