

House File 61 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 61

BY WHEELER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the Iowa core curriculum and content
2 standards applicable to students in kindergarten through
3 grade twelve and including effective date provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
2 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2019, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 Adopt rules that establish a core curriculum ~~and~~, which
5 school districts and accredited nonpublic schools may elect
6 to use, in whole or in part, at the discretion of the school
7 district or school. The state board shall also adopt high
8 school graduation requirements for all students in school
9 districts and accredited nonpublic schools that include at a
10 minimum satisfactory completion of four years of English and
11 language arts, three years of mathematics, three years of
12 science, and three years of social studies.

13 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 26, Code 2019, is amended
14 by adding the following new paragraph:

15 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* Adopt rules prohibiting the department
16 from adopting and implementing mandatory statewide core
17 curriculum standards. School districts and accredited
18 nonpublic schools may utilize the core adopted by the state
19 board, but shall not be required to report locally developed
20 standards to the department. The state board shall not adopt,
21 approve, or require implementation of the next generation
22 science standards by school districts and accredited nonpublic
23 schools.

24 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 28, Code 2019, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 28. Adopt a set of core content standards applicable to
27 all students in kindergarten through grade twelve in every
28 school district and accredited nonpublic school. For purposes
29 of **this subsection**, "*core content standards*" includes reading,
30 mathematics, and science. School districts and accredited
31 nonpublic schools ~~shall~~ may include, at a minimum, any of the
32 core content standards adopted pursuant to **this subsection**
33 in any set of locally developed content standards. School
34 districts and accredited nonpublic schools are strongly
35 encouraged to set higher expectations in ~~local~~ locally

1 developed content standards, but shall not be required to
2 report locally developed content standards to the department.
3 ~~As changes in federal law or regulation occur, the state~~
4 ~~board is authorized to amend the core content standards as~~
5 ~~appropriate.~~

6 Sec. 4. Section 256.7, subsection 32, paragraph b,
7 subparagraph (1), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2019, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 Adopt rules which require that ~~educational instruction~~
10 ~~and course content delivered primarily over the internet be~~
11 ~~aligned with the Iowa core standards as applicable. Under~~
12 ~~such rules, a school district, which may develop and offer to~~
13 ~~students enrolled in the district educational instruction and~~
14 ~~course content for delivery primarily over the internet. A~~
15 ~~school district providing educational instruction and course~~
16 ~~content that are delivered primarily over the internet, shall~~
17 ~~annually submit to the department, in the manner prescribed by~~
18 ~~the department, data that includes but is not limited to the~~
19 ~~following:~~

20 Sec. 5. Section 256.9, subsection 49, paragraph a, Code
21 2019, is amended to read as follows:

22 a. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area
23 education agencies, core curriculum technical assistance and
24 implementation strategies that school districts and accredited
25 nonpublic schools ~~shall~~ may utilize, including but not limited
26 to the development and delivery of formative and end-of-course
27 model assessments classroom teachers may use to measure student
28 progress on the core curriculum adopted pursuant to section
29 256.7, subsection 26. The department shall, in collaboration
30 with the advisory group convened in accordance with paragraph
31 "b" and educational assessment providers, identify and make
32 available to school districts end-of-course and additional
33 model end-of-course and additional assessments to align with
34 the expectations included in the Iowa core curriculum.

35 Sec. 6. Section 257.11, subsection 9, Code 2019, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 9. *Shared classes and curriculum standards.* ~~A school~~
3 ~~district shall ensure that any course made available to a~~
4 ~~student through any sharing agreement between the school~~
5 ~~district and a community college or any other entity providing~~
6 ~~course programming pursuant to this section to students~~
7 ~~enrolled in the school district meets the expectations~~
8 ~~contained in the core curriculum adopted pursuant to section~~
9 ~~256.7, subsection 26.~~ The school district shall ensure that
10 any course that has the capacity to generate college credit
11 shall be equivalent to college-level work.

12 Sec. 7. Section 279.61, subsection 1, paragraph a,
13 subparagraph (1), Code 2019, is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) Prepare the student for successful completion of the
15 ~~core curriculum developed~~ high school graduation requirements
16 adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section
17 256.7, subsection 26, by the time the student graduates from
18 high school.

19 Sec. 8. Section 279.61, subsection 2, Code 2019, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 2. The board of directors of each school district shall
22 report annually to each student enrolled in grades nine through
23 twelve in the school district, and, if the student is under
24 the age of eighteen, to each student's parent or guardian, the
25 student's progress toward meeting the goal of successfully
26 completing the ~~core curriculum and~~ high school graduation
27 requirements adopted by the state board of education pursuant
28 to section 256.7, subsection 26, and toward achieving the goals
29 of the student's career and academic plan.

30 Sec. 9. Section 280.3, subsection 2, Code 2019, is amended
31 to read as follows:

32 2. The minimum educational program shall be the ~~curriculum~~
33 graduation requirements set forth in ~~subsection 3 of this~~
34 section 256.7, subsection 26, and educational program set forth
35 in section 256.11, except as otherwise provided by law. The

1 board of directors of a public school district shall not allow
2 discrimination in any educational program on the basis of race,
3 color, creed, sex, marital status, or place of national origin.

4 Sec. 10. Section 280.3, subsection 3, Code 2019, is amended
5 by striking the subsection.

6 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed
7 of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

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 makes voluntary the use by school districts of
12 the core curriculum and content standards adopted by the state
13 board of education, but continues to direct the state board of
14 education to adopt the common core standards and high school
15 graduation requirements.

16 The bill requires the state board to adopt rules prohibiting
17 the department from adopting and implementing mandatory
18 statewide core curriculum standards. Schools may utilize the
19 core curriculum standards, and are encouraged to set higher
20 expectations in locally developed content standards, but
21 schools shall not be required to report locally developed
22 standards to the department.

23 A provision requiring the state board to adopt rules
24 requiring that educational instruction and course content
25 delivered primarily over the internet be aligned with the Iowa
26 core standards is stricken.

27 Further, the bill prohibits the state board from adopting,
28 approving, or requiring implementation of the next generation
29 science standards by school districts and accredited nonpublic
30 schools. The state board adopted the next generation science
31 standards with some modifications on August 6, 2015.

32 The bill makes technical and corresponding changes to
33 provisions which contain references to the language stricken.

34 The bill takes effect upon enactment.