

House File 704 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 704
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 563)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the boards of directors of school districts to
2 appoint student liaisons to the boards.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.3, Code 2019, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **279.3 Appointment of secretary and treasurer — student**
4 **liaison.**

5 1. a. The board shall appoint a secretary who shall not be
6 a teacher employed by the board but may be another employee of
7 the board. The board shall also appoint a treasurer who may be
8 another employee of the board. However, the board may appoint
9 one person to serve as the secretary and the treasurer.

10 ~~2.~~ b. These officers shall be appointed from outside the
11 membership of the board and the appointment and qualification
12 shall be entered of record in the minutes of the secretary.
13 They shall qualify within ten days following appointment by
14 taking the oath of office in the manner required by section
15 277.28 and filing a bond as required by [section 291.2](#) and shall
16 hold office until their successors are appointed and qualified.

17 2. The board shall select at least one student to act as
18 a liaison between the board, administrators, teachers, the
19 student council, and the general student population. The
20 board shall develop and implement an application and selection
21 process for the position of student liaison to the board.
22 The student liaison shall have a seat at the table of all
23 board meetings and board subcommittee meetings in a nonvoting
24 capacity, and shall have access to all nonconfidential
25 board meeting materials. However, the student liaison shall
26 not be admitted to a closed session of the board held in
27 accordance with section 21.5, nor shall the student liaison
28 have access to information in a record in the board's custody
29 that is a confidential record under section 22.7. The
30 student liaison may advocate for student interests in board
31 meetings, provide school administrators and board members with
32 student viewpoints, assist in developing and monitoring the
33 implementation of education policy, or volunteer to perform
34 other functions of benefit to the students and the district
35 that the board deems appropriate for a student to carry out.

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EXPLANATION

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

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4 This bill requires the boards of directors of school
5 districts to select at least one student to act as a liaison
6 between the board, administrators, teachers, the student
7 council, and the general student population. The student
8 liaison must have a seat at the table of all board meetings and
9 board subcommittee meetings in a nonvoting capacity; and have
10 access to all nonconfidential board meeting materials.

11 However, the student liaison shall not be admitted to closed
12 board sessions nor have access to confidential information in
13 the board's custody. The board must develop and implement an
14 application and selection process. The student liaison may
15 perform functions of benefit to the students and the district
16 that the board deems appropriate for a student to carry out.