

**House File 720 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 720  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 445)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to education funding weighting for children  
2 living in certain facilities and including effective date  
3 provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 282.31, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code  
2 2019, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. (1) A child who lives in a facility or other placement  
4 pursuant to [section 282.19](#), and who does not require special  
5 education and who is enrolled in the educational program of  
6 the district of residence at the time the child is placed,  
7 shall be included in the basic enrollment of the school  
8 district in which the child is enrolled. A child who lives in  
9 a facility or other placement pursuant to [section 282.19](#), and  
10 who does not require special education and who is not enrolled  
11 in the educational program of the district of residence of  
12 the child, shall be included in the basic enrollment of the  
13 school district in which the facility or other placement is  
14 located. However, for school budget years beginning on or  
15 after July 1, 2019, if a child under this paragraph "b", is  
16 living in an agency child care facility, as provided in section  
17 282.19, subsection 2, and, following a juvenile court or agency  
18 determination under section 282.19, subsection 2, the child is  
19 enrolled in the school district where the facility or placement  
20 is located, the child shall be assigned a weighting equal to  
21 the weighting established in section 256B.9, subsection 1,  
22 paragraph "b", as if the child required special education.

23 (2) However, on June 30 of a school year, if the board  
24 of directors of a school district determines that the number  
25 of children under this paragraph "b" who were counted in the  
26 basic enrollment of the school district in that school year  
27 in accordance with [section 257.6, subsection 1](#), is fewer than  
28 the sum of the number of months all children were enrolled  
29 in the school district under this paragraph "b" during the  
30 school year divided by nine, the secretary of the school  
31 district may submit a claim to the department of education by  
32 August 1 following the school year for an amount equal to the  
33 district cost per pupil of the district for the previous school  
34 year, including any amount attributable to weighting assigned  
35 under subparagraph (1), multiplied by the difference between

1 the number of children counted and the number of children  
2 calculated by the number of months of enrollment. The amount  
3 of the claim shall be paid by the department of administrative  
4 services to the school district by October 1. The department  
5 of administrative services shall transfer the total amount  
6 of the approved claim of a school district from the moneys  
7 appropriated under [section 257.16](#) and the amount paid shall  
8 be deducted monthly from the state foundation aid paid to all  
9 school districts in the state during the remainder of the  
10 subsequent fiscal year in the manner provided in paragraph "a".

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate  
12 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

13 EXPLANATION

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

16 Current Code section 282.31 provides that a child who lives  
17 in certain residential or foster care facilities or placements  
18 pursuant to Code section 282.19, and who does not require  
19 special education and who is enrolled in the educational  
20 program of the district of residence at the time the child  
21 is placed, is included in the basic enrollment of the school  
22 district in which the child is enrolled. Additionally, such  
23 a child who is not enrolled in the educational program of the  
24 district of residence of the child is included in the basic  
25 enrollment of the school district in which the facility or  
26 other placement is located.

27 This bill provides that for school budget years beginning  
28 on or after July 1, 2019, if such a child is living in an  
29 agency child foster care facility and if the juvenile court  
30 or responsible agency has determined that remaining in the  
31 child's prior school is not in the best interest of the child,  
32 the child shall be assigned a weighting equal to the weighting  
33 established in Code section 256B.9(1)(b), as if the child  
34 required special education.

35 The bill takes effect upon enactment.