

House Study Bill 706 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON BLOOMINGDALE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to open enrollment to noncontiguous school
2 districts.

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

1 Section 1. Section 282.18, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code
2 2020, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. (1) For purposes of this section, "good cause" means a
4 any of the following:

5 (a) A change in a child's residence due to a change in
6 family residence,~~a.~~

7 (b) A change in the state in which the family residence is
8 located,~~a.~~

9 (c) A change in a child's parents' marital status,~~a.~~

10 (d) A guardianship or custody proceeding,~~placement.~~

11 (e) The child's parent's or guardian's place of employment
12 is located in a noncontiguous school district.

13 (f) Placement in foster care, adoption, participation in a
14 foreign exchange program, or participation in a substance abuse
15 or mental health treatment program,~~a~~

16 (g) A change in the status of a child's resident district
17 such as removal of accreditation by the state board, surrender
18 of accreditation, or permanent closure of a nonpublic school,
19 revocation of a charter school contract as provided in section
20 256F.8, the failure of negotiations for a whole grade sharing,
21 reorganization, dissolution agreement or the rejection of a
22 current whole grade sharing agreement, or reorganization plan.

23 (2) If the good cause relates to a change in status of
24 a child's school district of residence, however, action by
25 a parent or guardian must be taken to file the notification
26 within forty-five days of the last board action or within
27 thirty days of the certification of the election, whichever is
28 applicable to the circumstances.

29

EXPLANATION

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

32 This bill expands the definition of "good cause" to include
33 a situation in which the child's parent's or guardian's place
34 of employment is located in a noncontiguous school district.
35 The provision allows a parent or guardian to send notification

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1 to the school district of residence and the receiving district
2 that good cause exists for failure to meet the March 1 deadline
3 to send notification of the intent to enroll the parent's or
4 guardian's child in a public school in another school district.
5 Under such circumstances, the board of the receiving district
6 must take action to approve the request if good cause exists.