

**Senate File 166 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 166

BY ZAUN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requesting the establishment of a state university

2 governance interim study committee.

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

1 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE — STATE  
2 UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE MODEL.

3 1. The legislative council is requested to establish an  
4 interim study committee to create a plan to eliminate the  
5 state board of regents while creating separate boards of  
6 directors for each of the state universities. The study  
7 committee shall develop a governance model that articulates the  
8 responsibilities of each state university board of directors,  
9 meets the needs of students, recognizes the unique strengths  
10 of each university, is responsive to the state's economic  
11 development and workforce needs on a local, regional, and  
12 statewide level, and provides each university with the autonomy  
13 necessary to function agilely.

14 2. The study committee shall receive input from agencies and  
15 entities including but not limited to all of the following:

16 a. A representative of the state university of Iowa.

17 b. A representative of the Iowa state university of science  
18 and technology.

19 c. A representative from the university of northern Iowa.

20 d. A representative of the department of workforce  
21 development.

22 e. A representative of the economic development authority.

23 f. Two representatives of Iowa's community colleges.

24 g. Three current and three former state university students  
25 within the past five years.

26 h. Three parents of students currently attending a state  
27 university and three parents of individuals who attended a  
28 state university.

29 3. The study committee shall do all of the following:

30 a. Determine the appropriate role, scope, and mission of the  
31 board of directors to be established for each state university.

32 b. Determine the appropriate role for each university  
33 president, including the authority and responsibility to  
34 supervise and direct the efficient operation of the university.

35 c. Examine the current Code requirements relating to the

1 state board of regents and all of the institutions it governs  
2 under section 262.7, including but not limited to provisions  
3 relating to exemptions, exclusions, reports, capital projects,  
4 accounting and payroll systems, investments and bonding  
5 activities, audits, purchasing requirements, human resources  
6 requirements, interactions with other boards and agencies, the  
7 central board office, and the other responsibilities or duties  
8 of the board as set forth in chapters 262 through 271.

9 4. In creating a model, the study committee shall provide  
10 for clear delineation between governance and management  
11 responsibilities for each state university board of directors,  
12 and identify the entities responsible for the duties and other  
13 provisions identified in the examination conducted pursuant to  
14 subsection 3.

15 5. The study committee shall submit a report, including  
16 findings and recommendations, to the general assembly by  
17 November 29, 2019.

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 requests that the legislative council establish  
22 an interim study committee to create a plan to eliminate  
23 the state board of regents while creating a separate board  
24 of directors for each of the state universities. The study  
25 committee shall develop a governance model that articulates the  
26 responsibilities of each university board of directors, meets  
27 the needs of students, recognizes the unique strengths of each  
28 university, is responsive to the state's economic development  
29 and workforce needs on a local, regional, and statewide level,  
30 and provides each university with the autonomy necessary to  
31 function agilely.

32 The study committee shall receive input from representatives  
33 of the state universities, the department of workforce  
34 development, the economic development authority, the community  
35 colleges, current and former state university students, and

1 the parents of students who currently attend or who formerly  
2 attended a state university.

3 The study committee shall determine the appropriate role,  
4 scope, and mission of the board of directors to be established  
5 for each state university, and the appropriate role for each  
6 university president; and shall examine the current Code  
7 requirements relating to the state board of regents and the  
8 institutions of higher learning it governs, including but not  
9 limited to the responsibilities or duties of the board as set  
10 forth in Code chapters 262 through 271.

11 In creating a model, the committee shall provide for clear  
12 delineation between governance and management responsibilities  
13 for each state university board of directors, and identify  
14 the entity responsible for the duties and other provisions  
15 identified in the examination performed.

16 The study committee shall submit a report, including  
17 findings and recommendations, to the general assembly by  
18 November 29, 2019.