

Senate File 2034 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2034

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing bus hub requirements for the transportation
2 of students by school districts.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 285.11A Bus routes — hubs.

2 1. Each school district shall establish a bus hub for each
3 school district attendance center for the transportation of
4 students who are enrolled in the school district but are not
5 otherwise entitled to transportation under this chapter.

6 2. Each school district shall develop and publish on its
7 internet site an application that a parent or guardian of a
8 student enrolled in the school district shall use to request
9 transportation for the child from the bus hub to the school
10 designated for attendance and from the school designated for
11 attendance to the bus hub pursuant to this section.

12 3. By August 1 of the current school year for students
13 enrolled in kindergarten through grade twelve, the parent
14 or guardian requesting transportation for a student in
15 accordance with this section shall submit the application for
16 such transportation to the school district. The parent or
17 guardian may submit a request after the date specified in this
18 subsection if the board of directors of the school district
19 adopts a policy granting the superintendent of the school
20 district authority to approve applications submitted after the
21 date specified in this subsection.

22 4. The school district shall provide transportation, from
23 the hub to the school designated for attendance and from the
24 school designated for attendance to the hub, to students
25 whose applications have been approved by the school district
26 in accordance with this section. A school district shall
27 approve a timely filed application submitted for a student
28 in accordance with this section unless the bus used for
29 transportation to and from the school designated for attendance
30 has insufficient seating capacity or if the school district
31 would need to add another bus for the route.

32 5. The school district shall not charge a fee to a parent
33 or guardian whose application for transportation is approved
34 by the school district in accordance with this section. A
35 school district providing transportation to students pursuant

1 to this section shall not be reimbursed from state funds for
2 such transportation.

3 6. Each school district shall adopt a policy which defines
4 the term "insufficient seating capacity" for that district for
5 purposes of this section.

6 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
7 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
8 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
9 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
10 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
11 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
12 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
13 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
14 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
15 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
16 districts.

17

EXPLANATION

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

20 This bill requires each school district to establish a bus
21 hub for each school district attendance center for students
22 who are enrolled in the school district but are not otherwise
23 entitled to transportation.

24 Each school district must develop and publish on its
25 internet site an application that a parent or guardian of a
26 student must fill out and submit to the district by August 1
27 of the current school year if the parent or guardian wishes
28 to request hub transportation for the parent or guardian's
29 student. The board of directors of the school district may
30 adopt a policy granting the superintendent of the school
31 district authority to approve applications submitted after the
32 deadline established by the bill.

33 Applications shall be approved unless the bus used for
34 transportation to and from the school designated for attendance
35 has insufficient seating capacity or if the school district

S.F. 2034

1 would need to add another bus for the route. If an application
2 is approved by the district, the district must provide
3 transportation free of charge for the student between the
4 school designated for attendance and the hub to students whose
5 applications have been approved by the school district. The
6 school district shall not be reimbursed for transporting such
7 students.

8 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
9 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
10 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
11 district from state school foundation aid received by the
12 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
13 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
14 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
15 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
16 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
17 mandates included in the bill.