

**Senate File 2057 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2057

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**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring public and private accredited elementary,  
2 secondary, and postsecondary institutions to establish a  
3 process by which students may appeal coursework grades based  
4 on alleged political bias.

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

1 Section 1. Section 260C.14, Code 2020, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 25. Develop and implement an appeals  
4 process by which a student attending the community college  
5 may appeal a grade, issued by an instructor employed by the  
6 community college, on coursework completed by the student to  
7 determine whether the instructor has a political bias that  
8 affected the student's grade.

9 Sec. 2. Section 261.9, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
10 1, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

11 "*Accredited private institution*" means an institution of  
12 higher learning located in Iowa which is operated privately  
13 and not controlled or administered by any state agency or  
14 any subdivision of the state and which meets the criteria in  
15 paragraphs "a" and "b" and all of the criteria in paragraphs "d"  
16 through "~~i~~" "j", except that institutions defined in paragraph  
17 "c" of this subsection are exempt from the requirements of  
18 paragraphs "a" and "b":

19 Sec. 3. Section 261.9, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended  
20 by adding the following new paragraph:

21 NEW PARAGRAPH. *j.* Develops and implements an appeals  
22 process by which a student attending the institution may appeal  
23 a grade, issued by an instructor employed by the institution,  
24 on coursework completed by the student to determine whether the  
25 instructor has a political bias that affected the student's  
26 grade.

27 Sec. 4. Section 261.9, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph  
28 1, Code 2020, is amended to read as follows:

29 "*Eligible institution*" means an institution of higher  
30 learning located in Iowa which is operated privately and  
31 not controlled or administered by any state agency or any  
32 subdivision of the state, which is not exempt from taxation  
33 under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and which  
34 meets all of the criteria in subsection 1, paragraphs "d"  
35 through "~~i~~" "j", and the criteria in paragraphs "a" or "b" as

1 follows:

2 Sec. 5. Section 262.9, Code 2020, is amended by adding the  
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 39. Develop and implement an appeals  
5 process by which a student attending an institution of higher  
6 education governed by the board may appeal a grade, issued  
7 by an instructor employed by the institution, on coursework  
8 completed by the student to determine whether the instructor  
9 has a political bias that affected the student's grade.

10 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 280.18 Appeals process — political  
11 bias.

12 The board of directors of each school district and the  
13 authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school  
14 shall develop and implement an appeals process by which a  
15 student enrolled in the school district or accredited nonpublic  
16 school may appeal a grade, issued by a teacher employed by the  
17 school district or accredited nonpublic school, on coursework  
18 completed by the student to determine whether the teacher has a  
19 political bias that affected the student's grade.

20 EXPLANATION

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

23 This bill requires the boards of directors of school  
24 districts and community colleges, the authorities in charge of  
25 accredited nonpublic schools, accredited private institutions,  
26 and the board of regents to establish a process by which  
27 students may appeal coursework grades to determine whether the  
28 teacher has a political bias that affected the student's grade.