

Senate File 316 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 316
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 206)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requesting the establishment of a special education
2 interim study committee.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE — SPECIAL EDUCATION.

2 1. The legislative council is requested to establish an
3 interim study committee to study and make recommendations
4 relating to special education program requirements and outcomes
5 for students with individualized education programs.

6 2. The study committee shall review state and federal
7 laws relating to students with individualized education
8 programs (IEPs); shall determine the ways in which inclusion
9 requirements and least restrictive environment placements
10 affect the classroom, including but not limited to the teaching
11 staff, teacher retention, teacher professional development,
12 and student and peer outcomes when children requiring special
13 education are placed in a general education classroom; shall
14 review evidence-based practices and strategies by which schools
15 and teachers can best accommodate students with IEPs who have
16 severe emotional, social, and behavioral problems; shall
17 develop or identify strategies designed to improve outcomes
18 for children requiring special education; and shall develop
19 or identify a graduated process for the transfer of a child
20 requiring special education from a self-contained classroom to
21 a general education classroom.

22 3. The study committee shall receive input from, at a
23 minimum, the department of education, the area education
24 agencies, school administrators, special education teachers,
25 general education teachers, mental health professionals with
26 experience in children's mental health, parents of children
27 requiring special education and parents of children who do not
28 require special education, and boards of directors of school
29 districts.

30 4. The study committee shall submit a report with its
31 findings and recommendations to the general assembly and to
32 each member of Iowa's congressional delegation on or before
33 December 18, 2020.

34

EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill requests the legislative council to establish
3 an interim study committee to study and make recommendations
4 relating to special education program requirements and outcomes
5 for students with individualized education programs (IEPs).
6 The study committee shall review state and federal laws;
7 shall determine the ways in which inclusion requirements and
8 placements affect classrooms, teachers, and student and peer
9 outcomes when children requiring special education are placed
10 in a general education classroom; shall review evidence-based
11 practices and strategies by which schools and teachers can
12 best accommodate students with IEPs who have severe emotional,
13 social, and behavioral problems; shall develop or identify
14 strategies designed to improve outcomes for children requiring
15 special education; and shall develop or identify a graduated
16 process for the transfer of a child requiring special education
17 from a self-contained classroom to a general education
18 classroom.

19 The study committee shall receive input from, at a minimum,
20 the department of education, the area education agencies,
21 and the boards of directors of school districts; school
22 administrators; special education teachers; general education
23 teachers; parents of children requiring special education and
24 parents whose children do not require special education; and
25 mental health professionals with experience in children's
26 mental health.

27 The study committee shall submit a report with its findings
28 and recommendations to the general assembly and to each member
29 of Iowa's congressional delegation on or before December 18,
30 2020.