

**Senate File 371 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 371

BY COURNOYER

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to probationary periods for school district  
2 administrators.

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

1 Section 1. Section 279.24, subsection 4, Code 2019, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. Administrators employed in a school district for  
4 less than ~~three~~ two consecutive years are probationary  
5 administrators. However, a school board may extend the  
6 probationary period for an additional year with the consent of  
7 the administrator and may waive the probationary period for any  
8 administrator who has previously served a probationary period  
9 in another school district. If a school board determines that  
10 it should terminate a probationary administrator's contract,  
11 the school board shall notify the administrator not later than  
12 May 15 that the contract will not be renewed beyond the current  
13 year. The notice shall be in writing by letter, personally  
14 delivered, or mailed by certified mail. The notification  
15 shall be complete when received by the administrator. Within  
16 ten days after receiving the notice, the administrator may  
17 request a private conference with the school board to discuss  
18 the reasons for termination. The school board's decision  
19 to terminate a probationary administrator's contract shall  
20 be final unless the termination was based upon an alleged  
21 violation of a constitutionally guaranteed right of the  
22 administrator.

23

EXPLANATION

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

26 This bill reduces, from three years to two years, the  
27 probationary period a school administrator must serve and  
28 authorizes a school board to waive the probationary period for  
29 an administrator who previously served a probationary period in  
30 another school district.