

House File 222 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 222

BY WHEELER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the reduction of certain funding and
2 budgets for public schools, community colleges, and regents
3 institutions following the use of specified curriculum and
4 including effective date and applicability provisions.

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

1 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.

2 1. The general assembly finds that recently developed
3 United States history curriculum derived from a project by the
4 New York Times, known as the "1619 Project", attempts to deny
5 or obfuscate the fundamental principles upon which the United
6 States was founded.

7 2. The general assembly has a strong interest in promoting
8 an accurate account of this nation's history through public
9 schools and forming young people into knowledgeable and
10 patriotic citizens.

11 Sec. 2. Section 256.11, Code 2021, is amended by adding the
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. A school shall not utilize any United
14 States history curriculum that in whole or in part is derived
15 from a project by the New York Times, known as the "1619
16 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum.

17 Sec. 3. Section 257.7, Code 2021, is amended by adding the
18 following new subsection:

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. *Budget reductions for curriculum*
20 *violations.* The amount of a school district's budget
21 otherwise determined under subsection 1 shall be reduced by
22 one one-hundred-eightieth for each day of the previous budget
23 year for which the school district used school curriculum in
24 violation of section 256.11, subsection 5A.

25 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 257.17A **Aid reduction for curriculum**
26 **violations.**

27 1. State aid payments made pursuant to section 257.16 for a
28 fiscal year shall be reduced by one one-hundred-eightieth for
29 each day of that fiscal year for which the school district used
30 school curriculum in violation of section 256.11, subsection
31 5A, during the prior school year.

32 2. The department of management shall prorate the reduction
33 made pursuant to this section to account for a school district
34 that is approved to maintain a year-round school calendar under
35 section 279.10, subsection 2.

1 Sec. 5. Section 260C.17, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
2 to read as follows:

3 1. The board of directors of each merged area shall prepare
4 an annual budget designating the proposed expenditures for
5 operation of the community college. The board shall further
6 designate the amounts which are to be raised by local taxation
7 and the amounts which are to be raised by other sources of
8 revenue for the operation. The budget of each merged area
9 shall be submitted to the state board no later than May 1
10 preceding the next fiscal year for approval. The state board
11 shall review the proposed budget and shall, prior to June 1,
12 either grant its approval or return the budget without approval
13 with the comments of the state board attached to it. Any
14 unapproved budget shall be resubmitted to the state board for
15 final approval. If the merged area has utilized any United
16 States history curriculum during the previous fiscal year that
17 in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York
18 Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed
19 curriculum, the state board shall reduce the merged area's
20 final total budget by an amount proportionate to the number
21 of days during that fiscal year that the curriculum was used.
22 Upon approval of the budget by the state board, the board of
23 directors shall certify the amount to the respective county
24 auditors and the boards of supervisors annually shall levy a
25 tax of twenty and one-fourth cents per thousand dollars of
26 assessed value on taxable property in a merged area for the
27 operation of a community college. Taxes collected pursuant
28 to the levy shall be paid by the respective county treasurers
29 to the treasurer of the merged area as provided in section
30 331.552, subsection 29.

31 Sec. 6. Section 262.28, Code 2021, is amended to read as
32 follows:

33 **262.28 Appropriations — monthly installments.**

34 1. All appropriations made payable annually to each of the
35 institutions under the control of the board of regents shall be

1 paid in twelve equal monthly installments on the last day of
2 each month on order of said board.

3 2. If an institution under the control of the board of
4 regents has utilized any United States history curriculum
5 during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is
6 derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the
7 "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the
8 monthly appropriations paid to the institution shall be reduced
9 by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that
10 fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

11 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
12 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

13 Sec. 8. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to budgets, state
14 aid payments, and appropriations for fiscal years beginning on
15 or after July 1, 2021.

16 EXPLANATION

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

19 This bill includes findings of the general assembly that
20 the recently developed United States history curriculum
21 derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the
22 "1619 Project", attempts to deny or obfuscate the fundamental
23 principles upon which the United States was founded and that
24 the general assembly has a strong interest in promoting an
25 accurate account of this nation's history through public
26 schools and forming young people into knowledgeable and
27 patriotic citizens.

28 The bill amends provisions governing the educational program
29 established by the state board of education to prohibit a
30 school from utilizing any United States history curriculum that
31 in whole or in part is derived from a project by the New York
32 Times, known as the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed
33 curriculum. The bill requires reductions to the authorized
34 budget of and state aid payments to a school district that
35 violates the prohibition on the use of prohibited curriculum.

1 The bill also provides that if a merged area (community
2 college) has utilized any United States history curriculum
3 during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in part is
4 derived from a project by the New York Times, known as the
5 "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the
6 state board shall reduce the merged area's final total budget
7 by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that
8 fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

9 Under the bill, if an institution under the control of
10 the board of regents has utilized any United States history
11 curriculum during the previous fiscal year that in whole or in
12 part is derived from a project by the New York Times, known as
13 the "1619 Project", or any similarly developed curriculum, the
14 monthly appropriations paid to the institution shall be reduced
15 by an amount proportionate to the number of days during that
16 fiscal year that the curriculum was used.

17 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to budgets,
18 state aid payments, and appropriations for fiscal years
19 beginning on or after July 1, 2021.