

Senate File 517 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 517

BY R. SMITH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the provision of academic credit, including
2 social studies coursework, and exemptions for physical
3 education and activity requirements for students who
4 participate in the legislative page program at the state
5 capitol.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, Code 2021, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 18. The board of directors of a school
4 district and the authorities in charge of an accredited
5 nonpublic school shall each establish a policy to award credit
6 toward graduation to a student if the student participates
7 in the legislative page program at the state capitol for a
8 regular session of the general assembly. The student shall be
9 excused from the physical education requirements of subsection
10 5, paragraph "g", subparagraph (1), and is exempt from the
11 physical activity requirements of subsection 6, paragraph
12 "b", subparagraph (2), while participating in the legislative
13 page program. The student must complete the graduation
14 requirements of section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph "a",
15 but participation in the legislative page program for a
16 complete regular session of the general assembly shall count as
17 one-half unit of social studies credit required for purposes of
18 section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph "a".

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill directs school districts and accredited nonpublic
23 schools to establish policies to award credit toward graduation
24 to students who participate in the legislative page program
25 at the state capitol for a regular session of the general
26 assembly. The student is excused from the physical education
27 requirements and is exempt from the physical activity
28 requirements under the state educational standards while
29 participating in the legislative page program. The student
30 must complete the graduation requirements under state board
31 of education rules, but participation in the legislative page
32 program for a complete regular session of the general assembly
33 shall count as one-half unit of the three units of social
34 studies credit required for graduation.