

House File 2193 - Introduced

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BY TUREK

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the Iowa school for the deaf and providing
2 transition provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.1, subsection 1, paragraph g, Code
2 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph.

3 Sec. 2. Section 256.95, Code 2024, is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 **256.95 Iowa educational services for the blind and visually**
6 **impaired and ~~Iowa school for the deaf.~~**

7 The department shall do all of the following:

8 1. Administer the Iowa educational services for the blind
9 and visually impaired program.

10 ~~2. Govern the Iowa school for the deaf.~~

11 ~~3.~~ 2. Establish a hall of fame for distinguished graduates
12 of the ~~Iowa school for the deaf, distinguished graduates of~~
13 ~~the Iowa braille and sight saving school,~~ and distinguished
14 participants in the Iowa educational services for the blind and
15 visually impaired program.

16 Sec. 3. Section 256.97, Code 2024, is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 **256.97 Admission — Iowa school for the deaf.**

19 Any resident of the state less than twenty-one years of
20 age who has a hearing loss which is too severe to acquire an
21 education in the public schools is eligible to attend the Iowa
22 school for the deaf. Nonresidents similarly situated may be
23 admitted to the Iowa school for the deaf upon such terms as may
24 be fixed by the ~~department~~ state board of regents. The fee
25 for nonresidents shall be set by the ~~department~~ state board of
26 regents.

27 Sec. 4. Section 256.100, Code 2024, is amended to read as
28 follows:

29 **256.100 Residence during vacation.**

30 The residence of indigent or homeless children may, by order
31 of the ~~department~~ state board of regents, be continued during
32 vacation months.

33 Sec. 5. Section 256.101, Code 2024, is amended to read as
34 follows:

35 **256.101 Iowa school for the deaf — transportation**

1 reimbursement.

2 Funds appropriated to the Iowa school for the deaf for
3 payments to the parents or guardians of pupils in that
4 institution shall be expended as follows:

5 1. Transportation reimbursement at a rate established
6 annually by the ~~department~~ state board of regents to the
7 parents or guardians of children who do not reside in the
8 institution, but are transported to the institution on a daily
9 basis.

10 2. Transportation reimbursement at a rate established
11 annually by the ~~department~~ state board of regents to the
12 parents or guardians for transportation from the institution
13 to the residence of the parent or guardian and return to the
14 institution for children who reside in the institution.

15 Sec. 6. Section 256.102, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2024,
16 is amended to read as follows:

17 The ~~department~~ state board of regents shall not close the
18 Iowa school for the deaf at Council Bluffs until all of the
19 following requirements have been met:

20 Sec. 7. Section 256.103, Code 2024, is amended to read as
21 follows:

22 **256.103 Employees — contracts — termination and discharge**
23 **procedures.**

24 Sections 279.12 through 279.19 and [section 279.27](#) apply to
25 employees of the Iowa educational services for the blind and
26 visually impaired program and ~~employees of the Iowa school for~~
27 ~~the deaf~~, who are licensed pursuant to [subchapter VII, part 3](#).
28 In following those sections in [chapter 279](#), the references to
29 boards of directors of school districts shall be interpreted to
30 apply to the department.

31 Sec. 8. Section 256.105, Code 2024, is amended to read as
32 follows:

33 **256.105 Transfer of a student to the university of Iowa**
34 **hospitals and clinics.**

35 The ~~department~~ state board of regents may send any student

1 of the Iowa school for the deaf to the university of Iowa
2 hospitals and clinics for treatment and care. The ~~department~~
3 state board of regents shall pay the traveling expenses of
4 such student, and when necessary the traveling expenses of an
5 attendant for the student, out of funds appropriated for the
6 use of the ~~department~~ state board of regents.

7 Sec. 9. Section 261E.6, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code
8 2024, is amended to read as follows:

9 a. A school district, the Iowa school for the deaf, or
10 accredited nonpublic school shall grant high school credit to
11 an eligible student enrolled in a course under [this chapter](#)
12 if the eligible student successfully completes the course as
13 determined by the eligible postsecondary institution. The
14 board of directors of the school district, the ~~department of~~
15 education state board of regents for the Iowa school for the
16 deaf, or authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic
17 school shall determine the number of high school credits that
18 shall be granted to an eligible student who successfully
19 completes a course. Eligible students may take up to seven
20 semester hours of credit during the summer months when school
21 is not in session and receive credit for that attendance, if
22 the student pays the cost of attendance for those summer credit
23 hours.

24 Sec. 10. Section 261E.6, subsection 6, Code 2024, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 6. *Definition.* For purposes of [this section](#) and section
27 261E.7, unless the context otherwise requires, “*eligible*
28 *student*” means a student classified by the board of directors of
29 a school district, by the ~~department of education~~ state board
30 of regents for pupils of the Iowa school for the deaf, or by the
31 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school as a
32 ninth or tenth grade student who is identified according to the
33 school district’s gifted and talented criteria and procedures,
34 pursuant to [section 257.43](#), as a gifted and talented child,
35 or an eleventh or twelfth grade student, during the period

1 the student is participating in the postsecondary enrollment
2 options program.

3 Sec. 11. Section 261E.7, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
4 1, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

5 Not later than June 30 of each year, a school district
6 shall pay a tuition reimbursement amount to a postsecondary
7 institution that has enrolled its resident eligible
8 students under [this chapter](#), unless the eligible student is
9 participating in open enrollment under [section 282.18](#), in which
10 case, the tuition reimbursement amount shall be paid by the
11 receiving district. However, if a child's residency changes
12 during a school year, the tuition shall be paid by the district
13 in which the child was enrolled as of the date specified in
14 section 257.6, subsection 1, or the district in which the child
15 was counted under [section 257.6, subsection 1, paragraph "a"](#),
16 subparagraph (6). For students enrolled at the Iowa school for
17 the deaf, the ~~department of education~~ state board of regents
18 shall pay a tuition reimbursement amount by June 30 of each
19 year. The amount of tuition reimbursement for each separate
20 course shall equal the lesser of:

21 Sec. 12. Section 262.7, Code 2024, is amended by adding the
22 following new subsection:

23 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. The Iowa school for the deaf.

24 Sec. 13. Section 262.9, subsection 2, Code 2024, is amended
25 to read as follows:

26 2. Elect a president of each of the institutions of higher
27 learning; a superintendent of the Iowa school for the deaf;
28 a treasurer and a secretarial officer for each institution
29 annually; professors, instructors, officers, and employees;
30 and fix their compensation. Sections 279.12 through 279.19
31 and section 279.27 apply to employees of the Iowa school for
32 the deaf who are licensed pursuant to chapter 256, subchapter
33 VII, part 3. In following those sections in chapter 279, the
34 references to boards of directors of school districts shall be
35 interpreted to apply to the board of regents.

1 Sec. 14. Section 262.9, Code 2024, is amended by adding the
2 following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 39. Establish a hall of fame for
4 distinguished graduates at the Iowa school for the deaf.

5 Sec. 15. Section 331.381, subsection 9, Code 2024, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 9. Comply with chapter ~~256, subchapter V,~~ 270 in regard
8 to the payment of costs for pupils at the Iowa school for the
9 deaf.

10 Sec. 16. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE.

11 1. The Code editor is directed to make the following
12 transfers:

13 a. Section 256.97 to section 270.1.

14 b. Section 256.98 to section 270.2.

15 c. Section 256.99 to section 270.3.

16 d. Section 256.100 to section 270.4.

17 e. Section 256.101 to section 270.5.

18 f. Section 256.104 to section 270.6.

19 g. Section 256.105 to section 270.7.

20 h. Section 256.102 to section 270.8.

21 2. The Code editor shall correct internal references in the
22 Code and in any enacted legislation as necessary due to the
23 enactment of this section.

24 Sec. 17. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

25 1. The property and records in the custody of the department
26 of education relating to the Iowa school for the deaf and the
27 hall of fame for distinguished graduates at the Iowa school for
28 the deaf shall be transferred to the state board of regents.

29 2. All employees of the department of education whose
30 primary workplace is located at the Iowa school for the deaf
31 shall be considered employees of the state board of regents on
32 the effective date of this Act without incurring any loss in
33 salary, benefits, or accrued years of service.

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 relates to the Iowa school for the deaf. Current
3 law tasks the department of education with governing the Iowa
4 school for the deaf. The bill transfers the responsibility
5 for governing the Iowa school for the deaf to the state board
6 of regents and makes conforming changes, including requiring
7 the state board of regents to establish a hall of fame for
8 distinguished graduates at the Iowa school for the deaf, set
9 transportation reimbursement rates, and determine the number
10 of credits to grant to students enrolled in the Iowa school
11 for the deaf who complete courses under the postsecondary
12 enrollment options program.

13 The bill provides that the property and records in the
14 custody of the department of education relating to the Iowa
15 school for the deaf and the hall of fame for distinguished
16 graduates at the Iowa school for the deaf shall be transferred
17 to the state board of regents. Additionally, the bill provides
18 that all employees of the department of education whose primary
19 workplace is located at the Iowa school for the deaf shall
20 be considered employees of the state board of regents on the
21 effective date of the bill without incurring any loss in
22 salary, benefits, or accrued years of service.