

**House File 2547 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2547  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2254)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring the development of an attendance improvement  
2 plan when a student is chronically absent from school.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 299.1C Students who are chronically  
2 absent.

3 1. When a student who is enrolled in a public school was  
4 absent from school for at least ten percent of the school days  
5 in the prior school year for any reason, all of the following  
6 persons shall meet to discuss how to improve the student's  
7 attendance, create an attendance improvement plan, and sign the  
8 attendance improvement plan:

9 a. The student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual  
10 custodian, if the student is not an emancipated minor.

11 b. The student, if the student is an emancipated minor.

12 c. A representative of the public school in which the  
13 student is enrolled.

14 d. A representative of the county attorney of a county in  
15 which the school district is located.

16 2. During the meeting described in subsection 1, the  
17 representative of the county attorney shall provide the  
18 student or the student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual  
19 custodian, as applicable, with information related to this  
20 state's laws related to attendance requirements, penalties  
21 associated with violating the attendance requirements, and  
22 exceptions to the attendance requirements.

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 requires the development of an attendance  
27 improvement plan when a student is chronically absent from  
28 school.

29 The bill provides that, when a student who is enrolled  
30 in a public school was absent from school for at least 10  
31 percent of the school days in the prior school year for any  
32 reason, the student or the student's parent, guardian, or  
33 custodian, as applicable, a representative of the public  
34 school, and a representative of the county attorney of a county  
35 in which the public school is located shall meet to discuss

1 how to improve the student's attendance, create an attendance  
2 improvement plan, and sign the attendance improvement plan.  
3 The bill requires that, during the meeting, the representative  
4 of the county attorney shall provide the student or the  
5 student's parent, guardian, or custodian, as applicable,  
6 with information related to this state's laws related to  
7 attendance requirements, penalties associated with violating  
8 the attendance requirements, and exceptions to the attendance  
9 requirements.