

House File 2703 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2703

BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2516)

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 686)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to work-based learning, including by repealing
2 provisions related to regional industry sector partnerships
3 and the statewide work-based learning intermediary network,
4 establishing the workforce opportunity fund within the
5 department of workforce development, modifying provisions
6 related to career and technical education, student teacher
7 requirements for students with substitute teaching or
8 para-educator experience, and the future ready Iowa skilled
9 workforce last-dollar scholarship program, and making
10 appropriations.

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

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DIVISION I

REGIONAL INDUSTRY SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS AND STATEWIDE WORK-BASED
LEARNING INTERMEDIARY NETWORK

Section 1. Section 84A.5, subsection 5, paragraph f, Code 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 2. Section 85.61, subsection 3, paragraph c, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

c. An eligible postsecondary institution as defined in section 261E.2, ~~a school district, or an accredited nonpublic school if a student enrolled in the eligible postsecondary institution, school district, or accredited nonpublic school is providing unpaid services under a work-based learning opportunity offered in accordance with~~ [section 84A.16](#).

~~However, if the student participating in a work-based learning opportunity is participating in open enrollment under section 282.18, "employer" means the receiving district.~~

Sec. 3. Section 85.61, subsection 12, paragraph a, subparagraphs (4) and (5), Code 2024, are amended by striking the subparagraphs.

Sec. 4. Section 256.125, subsections 6 and 9, Code 2024, are amended by striking the subsections.

Sec. 5. Section 256.133, subsections 2 and 3, Code 2024, are amended by striking the subsections.

Sec. 6. Section 256.136, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 7. Section 256.136, subsection 4, paragraph d, Code 2024, is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 8. Section 256.136, subsection 4, paragraph f, Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

f. Representatives of business and industry, ~~including representatives of regional industry sector partnerships established pursuant to~~ [section 84A.15](#).

Sec. 9. REPEAL. Sections 84A.15 and 84A.16, Code 2024, are repealed.

Sec. 10. STATEWIDE WORK-BASED LEARNING INTERMEDIARY NETWORK

1 FUND. Any moneys appropriated to the department of workforce
2 development for purposes of the statewide work-based learning
3 intermediary network fund established pursuant to section
4 84A.16 that remain unencumbered or unobligated as of July 1,
5 2024, shall be deposited in the general fund of the state.

6 DIVISION II

7 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND WORK-BASED LEARNING

8 Sec. 11. Section 256.11, subsection 5, paragraph h,
9 subparagraph (2), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

10 (2) Instructional programs provided under subparagraph
11 (1) shall comply with the provisions of subchapter VII, part
12 2, relating to career and technical education, and shall be
13 articulated with postsecondary programs of study and include
14 field, laboratory, ~~or~~ on-the-job training, or work-based
15 learning, as defined in section 256.125. Each sequential
16 unit shall contain a portion of a career and technical
17 education program approved by the department. Standards for
18 instructional programs shall include but not be limited to new
19 and emerging technologies; job-seeking, job-adaptability, and
20 other employment, self-employment and entrepreneurial skills
21 that reflect current industry standards and labor-market needs;
22 and reinforcement of basic academic skills. Instructional
23 programs that include work-based learning may be provided when
24 school is not in session, including but not limited to during
25 the summer months.

26 DIVISION III

27 STUDENT TEACHING

28 Sec. 12. Section 256.16, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
29 2024, is amended to read as follows:

30 c. (1) Require that each student admitted to an approved
31 practitioner preparation program participate in pre-student
32 teaching field experiences that include both observation and
33 participation in teaching activities in a variety of school
34 settings. Pre-student teaching field experiences for students
35 participating in an initial teacher preparation program shall

1 comprise a total of at least eighty hours in duration, at least
2 ten hours of which shall occur prior to a student's acceptance
3 in an approved practitioner preparation program. Pre-student
4 teaching field experiences for students participating in a
5 teacher intern preparation program shall comprise a total of at
6 least fifty hours in duration.

7 (2) (a) The student teaching experience shall be a minimum
8 of fourteen weeks in duration during the student's final year
9 of the practitioner preparation program. The program shall
10 make every reasonable effort to offer the student teaching
11 experience prior to a student's last semester, or equivalent,
12 in the program, and to expand the student's student teaching
13 opportunities beyond one semester or the equivalent.

14 (b) Notwithstanding subparagraph division (a), the student
15 teaching experience shall be four weeks in duration during the
16 student's final year of the practitioner preparation program if
17 all of the following requirements are met:

18 (i) The student bears the primary responsibility for
19 planning, instruction, and assessment within the classroom for
20 a minimum of four weeks during the student teaching experience.

21 (ii) The board of educational examiners has issued a
22 substitute license, substitute authorization, or para-educator
23 certificate to the student, and the student has prior
24 experience working as a substitute teacher or a para-educator,
25 including prior experience under the teacher and para-educator
26 registered apprenticeship grant program.

27 (iii) The student teaching experience takes place in
28 the classroom of a cooperating teacher who is appropriately
29 licensed in the subject area and grade level endorsement for
30 which the student is being prepared.

31 (c) A student may satisfy requirements related to
32 the student teaching experience if all of the following
33 requirements are met:

34 (i) The student teaching experience takes place in the
35 classroom of a cooperating teacher who is appropriately

1 licensed in the subject area and grade level endorsement for
2 which the student is being prepared, and lasts for at least
3 one-half of each school day.

4 (ii) Under the supervision of the cooperating teacher, and
5 for at least one-half of each school day, the student bears
6 the primary responsibility for planning, instruction, and
7 assessment within the classroom for a minimum of four weeks
8 during the student teaching experience.

9 (iii) The board of educational examiners has issued a
10 para-educator certificate to the student, and the student works
11 as a para-educator for at least one-half of each school day
12 during the fourteen-week student teaching experience.

13 DIVISION IV

14 CHANGES TO DEFINED TERMS

15 Sec. 13. Section 84D.2, subsections 18, 24, and 25, Code
16 2024, are amended by striking the subsections and inserting in
17 lieu thereof the following:

18 18. "*Quality pre-apprenticeship program*" means a program
19 or set of strategies, registered by and for purposes of the
20 Iowa office of apprenticeship, including basic skills training,
21 academic skills remediation, or introduction to the industry,
22 designed to prepare individuals for entry into a registered
23 apprenticeship program.

24 24. "*Work-based learning*" means opportunities and
25 experiences that include but are not limited to sustained
26 project-based learning in partnership with an employer,
27 simulated work experiences aligned with industry-recognized
28 credentials, high-quality pre-apprenticeships aligned to an
29 apprenticeship, student learner programs, internships, and
30 apprenticeships.

31 25. "*Youth apprenticeship*", for purposes of the Iowa
32 office of apprenticeship, means a program that is designed
33 specifically for an apprentice eighteen years of age or under.

34 Sec. 14. Section 256.125, subsection 8, Code 2024, is
35 amended to read as follows:

1 8. *“Work-based learning”* means opportunities and
2 experiences that include but are not limited to ~~tours,~~
3 ~~job shadowing, rotations, mentoring, entrepreneurship,~~
4 ~~service learning,~~ sustained project-based learning in
5 partnership with an employer, simulated work experiences
6 aligned with industry-recognized credentials, high-quality
7 pre-apprenticeships aligned to an apprenticeship, student
8 learner programs, internships, and apprenticeships.

9 DIVISION V

10 DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT — WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY
11 FUND

12 Sec. 15. NEW SECTION. **84A.20 Workforce opportunity fund.**

13 1. A workforce opportunity fund is created in the
14 state treasury as a separate fund under the control of
15 the department of workforce development. The fund shall
16 consist of appropriations made to the fund, any other moneys
17 available to and obtained or accepted by the department from
18 the federal government or private sources for placement in
19 the fund, and transfers of interest, earnings, and moneys
20 from other funds as provided by law. Moneys in the fund are
21 appropriated to the department of workforce development for
22 the purposes of training and infrastructure related to the
23 growth and maintenance of the state’s workforce programs.
24 Permitted uses of the moneys in the fund include but are not
25 limited to equipment, instructional materials, stipends, and
26 other training-related costs. The department of workforce
27 development shall only distribute moneys in the fund to
28 workforce programs located within this state.

29 2. Annually, on or before December 31 of each year, the
30 department of workforce development shall submit a report
31 to the general assembly and the legislative services agency
32 that contains a list of all expenditures from the workforce
33 opportunity fund made in the previous fiscal year. The
34 legislative services agency shall provide a copy of the
35 report to the co-chairpersons and ranking members of the joint

1 appropriations subcommittee on economic development.

2 3. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys in the workforce
3 opportunity fund that remain unencumbered or unobligated
4 at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall
5 remain available for expenditure for the purposes designated
6 for subsequent fiscal years. Notwithstanding section 12C.7,
7 subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall
8 be credited to the fund.

9 4. This section is repealed July 1, 2029.

10 Sec. 16. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION RESERVE FUND — TRANSFER
11 TO WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY FUND.

12 1. Any moneys appropriated to the department of workforce
13 development for purposes of the unemployment compensation
14 reserve fund established pursuant to section 96.9 that
15 remain unencumbered or unobligated as of July 1, 2024, but
16 not more than thirty million dollars, shall be deposited in
17 the workforce opportunity fund created in section 84A.20, if
18 enacted by this division of this Act.

19 2. Any moneys remaining in the unemployment compensation
20 reserve fund after the deposit described in subsection 1 shall
21 be transferred to the account of this state in the unemployment
22 trust fund; provided, however, that any interest earned on
23 moneys remaining in the unemployment compensation reserve
24 fund after the deposit described in subsection 1 shall be
25 transferred to the special employment security contingency
26 fund.

27 DIVISION VI

28 FUTURE READY IOWA SKILLED WORKFORCE LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP
29 PROGRAM

30 Sec. 17. Section 256.228, subsection 1, paragraph g,
31 subparagraph (2), Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:

32 (2) Completes and submits application forms required by the
33 commission, including the free application for federal student
34 aid; applies for all available state and federal financial
35 aid; attends orientation in person or virtually; registers

1 for classes with the assistance of an academic advisor;
2 and participates in academic and career advising sessions
3 required under the eligible program. ~~To receive a renewal of~~
4 ~~a scholarship awarded under this section, an eligible student~~
5 ~~must annually submit a new application to the commission for~~
6 ~~reevaluation of eligibility.~~

7 Sec. 18. Section 256.228, subsection 1, paragraph g, Code
8 2024, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

9 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (5) Has an expected family contribution
10 of less than or equal to twenty thousand dollars, as determined
11 by the free application for federal student aid.

12 Sec. 19. Section 256.228, subsection 3, paragraph d, Code
13 2024, is amended to read as follows:

14 *d.* A future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
15 scholarship shall be awarded ~~on an annual basis, requiring~~
16 ~~reapplication by an eligible student each year~~ for a two-year
17 period, or at the time the student earns the credential sought,
18 up to an associate degree. Scholarship payments shall be
19 allocated equally among the semesters, or the equivalent, and
20 paid upon certification by the eligible institution that the
21 student meets the requirements of [subsection 1](#), paragraph "g".

22 EXPLANATION

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

25 This bill relates to work-based learning, including by
26 repealing provisions related to regional industry sector
27 partnerships and the statewide work-based learning intermediary
28 network, establishing the workforce opportunity fund within
29 the department of workforce development, and modifying
30 provisions related to career and technical education, student
31 teacher requirements for students with substitute teaching or
32 para-educator experience, and the future ready Iowa skilled
33 workforce last-dollar scholarship program.

34 DIVISION I — REGIONAL INDUSTRY SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS AND
35 STATEWIDE WORK-BASED LEARNING INTERMEDIARY NETWORK. Code

1 section 84A.15 authorizes community colleges and the department
2 of workforce development (IWD) to use moneys for the pathways
3 for academic career and employment program to provide staff and
4 support for the development and implementation of a regional
5 industry sector partnership within each region served by each
6 community college. The bill repeals Code section 84A.15 and
7 makes conforming changes.

8 Code section 84A.16 establishes the statewide work-based
9 learning intermediary network program within IWD for the
10 purpose of preparing students for the workforce by facilitating
11 cooperation and collaboration between businesses and entities
12 within the state system of education and offering relevant,
13 work-based learning activities to students and teachers. The
14 bill repeals Code section 84A.16 and makes conforming changes.

15 DIVISION II — CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND WORK-BASED
16 LEARNING. Current law requires school districts and accredited
17 nonpublic schools to offer and teach, in grades 9 through 12,
18 a minimum of three sequential units in at least four career
19 and technical education service areas. The bill provides
20 that the instructional programs provided under this provision
21 may include work-based learning, as defined in Code section
22 256.125 (community colleges and post-secondary readiness
23 bureau), as modified by the bill. The bill also provides that
24 instructional programs that include work-based learning may be
25 provided when school is not in session, including during the
26 summer months.

27 DIVISION III — STUDENT TEACHING. Current law provides that
28 the student teaching experience provided during a practitioner
29 preparation program shall be a minimum of 14 weeks in duration
30 during the student's final year of the program. The bill
31 provides that the student teaching experience may be reduced
32 to four weeks in duration if the student bears the primary
33 responsibility for planning, instruction, and assessment within
34 the classroom during the student teaching experience; the
35 board of educational examiners (BOEE) has issued a substitute

1 license, substitute authorization, or para-educator certificate
2 to the student, and the student has prior experience working
3 as a substitute teacher or a para-educator; and the student
4 teaching experience takes place in the classroom of a
5 cooperating teacher who is appropriately licensed in the
6 subject area and grade level endorsement for which the student
7 is being prepared. Additionally, the bill provides that
8 requirements related to the student teacher experience may be
9 satisfied if the student teaching experience takes place in
10 the classroom of a cooperating teacher who is appropriately
11 licensed in the subject area and grade level endorsement for
12 which the student is being prepared, and lasts for at least
13 one-half of each school day; under the supervision of the
14 cooperating teacher, and for at least one-half of each school
15 day, the student bears the primary responsibility for planning,
16 instruction, and assessment within the classroom for a minimum
17 of four weeks during the student teaching experience; and the
18 BOEE has issued a para-educator certificate to the student, and
19 the student works as a para-educator for at least one-half of
20 each school day during the student teaching experience.

21 DIVISION IV — CHANGES TO DEFINED TERMS. The bill modifies
22 the definition of "work-based learning" for purposes of
23 the Iowa registered apprenticeship Act, and for purposes of
24 the community colleges and post-secondary readiness bureau
25 within the higher education division of the department of
26 education, to mean opportunities and experiences that include
27 but are not limited to sustained project-based learning in
28 partnership with an employer, simulated work experiences
29 aligned with industry-recognized credentials, high-quality
30 pre-apprenticeships aligned to an apprenticeship, student
31 learner programs, internships, and apprenticeships.

32 The bill also modifies the definitions of "quality
33 pre-apprenticeship program" and "youth apprenticeship" for
34 purposes of the Iowa registered apprenticeship Act.

35 DIVISION V — DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT —

1 WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY FUND. The bill establishes a workforce
2 opportunity fund in the state treasury as a separate fund under
3 the control of the department of workforce development. The
4 bill provides that the fund shall consist of appropriations
5 made to the fund, any other moneys available to and obtained
6 or accepted by the department from the federal government or
7 private sources for placement in the fund, and transfers of
8 interest, earnings, and moneys from other funds as provided by
9 law. Additionally, the bill appropriates moneys in the fund to
10 the department for the purposes of training and infrastructure
11 related to the growth and maintenance of the state's workforce
12 programs. The bill establishes that permitted uses of
13 the moneys in the fund include equipment, instructional
14 materials, stipends, and other training-related costs. The
15 bill requires that, on or before December 31 of each year, the
16 department shall submit a report to the general assembly and
17 the legislative services agency that contains a list of all
18 expenditures from the fund made in the previous fiscal year.
19 The bill provides that the legislative services agency is to
20 provide a copy of the report to the co-chairpersons and ranking
21 members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on economic
22 development. The workforce opportunity fund is repealed July
23 1, 2029.

24 The bill provides that any moneys appropriated to the
25 department of workforce development for purposes of the
26 unemployment compensation reserve fund that remain unencumbered
27 or unobligated as of July 1, 2024, but not more than \$30
28 million, shall be deposited in the workforce opportunity fund.
29 Additionally, the bill provides that any moneys remaining in
30 the unemployment compensation reserve fund after such deposit
31 shall be transferred to the account of this state in the
32 unemployment trust fund; provided, however, that any interest
33 earned on moneys remaining in the unemployment compensation
34 reserve fund after the deposit are to be transferred to the
35 special employment security contingency fund.

1 DIVISION VI — FUTURE READY IOWA SKILLED WORKFORCE
2 LAST-DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. Current law provides that
3 eligible students may receive a future ready Iowa skilled
4 workforce last-dollar scholarship from the future ready
5 Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship fund. The
6 scholarship is intended to cover any remaining gap between
7 federal and state grants or scholarships and tuition and
8 certain fees. Under current law, only an eligible student
9 participating in an eligible program, defined as a program of
10 study or an academic major jointly approved by the college
11 student aid commission and the department of workforce
12 development, in consultation with an eligible institution, that
13 leads to a credential aligned with a high-demand job designated
14 by the workforce development board or a community college,
15 may receive a future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
16 scholarship.

17 The bill establishes that an eligible student may only
18 receive a future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
19 scholarship if the student has an expected family contribution
20 of less than or equal to \$20,000, as determined by the free
21 application for federal student aid.

22 Current law provides that scholarships under the future
23 ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program
24 be awarded on an annual basis, and that eligible students
25 must annually submit new applications to the college student
26 aid commission. The bill provides that such scholarships be
27 awarded for a two-year period, or at the time the student earns
28 the credential sought, up to an associate degree, and that
29 students need not annually reapply for the scholarship.