

House File 454 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 454

BY HENDERSON, THOMSON, and
DETERMANN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to administrators employed by school districts,
2 including requiring administrators to provide instruction to
3 students and modifying the responsibilities of the board of
4 educational examiners.

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

1 Section 1. Section 272.2, subsection 14, Code 2023, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *f.* The board may suspend the license of an
4 administrator upon the board's finding by a preponderance of
5 the evidence that the administrator violated section 279.77.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **279.77 Administrators — teaching**
7 **requirements.**

8 1. Each school district containing two or more high schools,
9 three or more middle schools, or four or more elementary
10 schools shall do all of the following:

11 *a.* Require all administrators who are employed by the
12 school district as a superintendent, assistant superintendent,
13 or school district department head to teach at least one
14 one-semester class, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at
15 least once every three years.

16 *b.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
17 district as a high school principal or middle school principal
18 to teach at least three one-semester classes, or the trimester
19 or quarter equivalent, at least once every three years.

20 *c.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
21 district as an elementary school principal to teach at least
22 two subject areas in an elementary school class for at least
23 one semester, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at least
24 once every three years.

25 *d.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
26 district as a high school or middle school assistant principal,
27 director of athletics, dean of students, or any similar
28 position to teach at least three one-semester classes, or the
29 trimester or quarter equivalent, at least once every two years.

30 *e.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
31 district as an elementary school assistant principal, dean of
32 students, or any similar position to teach at least two subject
33 areas in an elementary school class for at least one semester,
34 or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at least once every two
35 years.

1 2. Each school district containing one high school, at
2 least one but not more than two middle schools, or at least one
3 but not more than three elementary schools shall do all of the
4 following:

5 *a.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
6 district as a superintendent or assistant superintendent to
7 teach at least one one-semester class, or the trimester or
8 quarter equivalent, at least once every three years.

9 *b.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
10 district as an administrator in a high school or middle school,
11 and who are not described in paragraph "a", "c", "d", or "e", to
12 teach at least three one-semester classes, or the trimester or
13 quarter equivalent, at least once every three years.

14 *c.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
15 district as an administrator in an elementary school, and who
16 are not described in paragraph "a", "b", "d", or "e", to teach
17 at least two subject areas in an elementary school class for at
18 least one semester, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at
19 least once every three years.

20 *d.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
21 district as a high school or middle school assistant principal,
22 director of athletics, dean of students, or any similar
23 position to teach at least two one-semester classes, or the
24 trimester or quarter equivalent, at least once every two years.

25 *e.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
26 district as an elementary school assistant principal, dean of
27 students, or any similar position to teach at least two subject
28 areas in an elementary school class for at least one semester,
29 or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at least once every two
30 years.

31 3. Each school district containing one middle school, one
32 elementary school, or no high schools shall do all of the
33 following:

34 *a.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
35 district as a superintendent or assistant superintendent to

1 teach at least one one-semester class, or the trimester or
2 quarter equivalent, at least once every three years.

3 *b.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
4 district as an administrator in a high school or middle school,
5 and who are not described in paragraph "a" or "c", to teach at
6 least three one-semester classes, or the trimester or quarter
7 equivalent, at least once every three years.

8 *c.* Require all administrators who are employed by the school
9 district as an administrator in an elementary school, and who
10 are not described in paragraph "a" or "b", to teach at least two
11 subject areas in an elementary school class for at least one
12 semester, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, at least once
13 every three years.

14 4. If more than one of subsections 1, 2, and 3 apply
15 to a school district, the school district shall meet the
16 requirements of subsection 2 in order to comply with this
17 section.

18 5. The superintendent of each school district shall ensure
19 that administrators employed by the school district comply
20 with this section. The superintendent of each school district
21 shall report to the department of education on an annual basis
22 regarding the school district's compliance with this section.

23 6. If the board of directors of a school district finds
24 that an administrator employed by the school district failed
25 to comply with this section, the administrator shall be
26 subject to a hearing conducted by the board of educational
27 examiners pursuant to section 272.2, subsection 14, which may
28 result in disciplinary action, including the suspension of the
29 administrator's license.

30 7. An administrator providing instruction pursuant to
31 this section shall hold a valid license issued by the board
32 of educational examiners with an endorsement for the type of
33 instruction provided by the administrator.

34 8. For purposes of this section, "administrator" means the
35 same as defined in section 272.1.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

EXPLANATION

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

This bill relates to administrators employed by school districts, including requiring administrators to provide instruction to students and modifying the responsibilities of the board of educational examiners (BOEE).

The bill provides that school districts containing two or more high schools, three or more middle schools, or four or more elementary schools shall require certain administrators to provide instruction to students. The bill requires that all administrators employed as superintendents, assistant superintendents, or school district department heads teach at least one one-semester class at least once every three years. The bill also requires that all administrators employed as high school principals or middle school principals teach at least three one-semester classes at least once every three years. Additionally, the bill requires that all administrators employed as elementary school principals teach at least two subject areas in an elementary school class for at least one semester at least once every three years. The bill also requires that all administrators employed as high school or middle school assistant principals, directors of athletics, deans of students, or any similar positions teach at least three one-semester classes at least once every two years. Additionally, the bill requires that all administrators employed as elementary school assistant principals, deans of students, or any similar positions teach at least two subject areas in an elementary school class for at least one semester at least once every two years.

The bill provides that school districts containing one high school, at least one but not more than two middle schools, or at least one but not more than three elementary schools shall require certain administrators to provide instruction to students. The bill requires that all administrators

1 employed as superintendents or assistant superintendents teach
2 at least one one-semester class at least once every three
3 years. Additionally, the bill requires that all administrators
4 employed as high school or middle school assistant principals,
5 directors of athletics, deans of students, or any similar
6 positions teach at least two one-semester classes at least
7 once every two years. The bill also requires that all
8 administrators employed as elementary school assistant
9 principals, deans of students, or any similar positions teach
10 at least two subject areas in an elementary school class
11 for at least one semester at least once every two years.
12 Additionally, the bill requires other administrators in a high
13 school or middle school to teach at least three one-semester
14 classes at least once every three years. The bill also
15 requires other administrators in an elementary school to teach
16 at least two subject areas in an elementary school class for at
17 least one semester at least once every three years. The bill
18 applies these same requirements to each school district that
19 fits into two or more of the categories of school districts
20 described in the bill.

21 The bill provides that school districts containing one
22 middle school, one elementary school, or no high schools shall
23 require certain administrators to provide instruction to
24 students. The bill requires that all administrators employed
25 as superintendents or assistant superintendents teach at
26 least one one-semester class at least once every three years.
27 Additionally, the bill requires other administrators in a high
28 school or middle school to teach at least three one-semester
29 classes at least once every three years. The bill also
30 requires other administrators in an elementary school to teach
31 at least two subject areas in an elementary school class for at
32 least one semester at least once every three years.

33 The bill provides that the superintendent of each school
34 district shall ensure that administrators employed by the
35 school district comply with the bill's provisions. The bill

1 requires the superintendent to report to the department of
2 education on an annual basis regarding the school district's
3 compliance with the bill's provisions.

4 The bill provides that if the board of directors of a school
5 district finds that an administrator failed to comply with the
6 bill's provisions, the administrator shall be subject to a
7 hearing conducted by the BOEE that may result in disciplinary
8 action, including the suspension of the administrator's
9 license.

10 The bill requires that an administrator providing
11 instruction pursuant to the bill's provisions hold a valid
12 license issued by the BOEE with an endorsement for the type of
13 instruction provided by the administrator.

14 The bill defines "administrator" as a person who is licensed
15 to coordinate, supervise, or direct an educational program or
16 the activities of other practitioners.