House Study Bill 564 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BILL)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act modifying provisions related to the time in which the
- 2 board of educational examiners can investigate complaints
- 3 relating to licensed school employees having romantic or
- 4 otherwise inappropriate relationships with students.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 256.146, subsection 14, paragraph a, 2 Code 2024, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 a. Adopt rules that require specificity in written
- 4 complaints that are filed by individuals who have personal
- 5 knowledge of an alleged violation and which are accepted by
- 6 the board, provide that the jurisdictional requirements as set
- 7 by the board in administrative rule are met on the face of the
- 8 complaint before initiating an investigation of allegations,
- 9 provide that any investigation be limited to the allegations
- 10 contained on the face of the complaint, provide for an adequate
- 11 interval between the receipt of a complaint and public notice
- 12 of the complaint, permit parties to a complaint to mutually
- 13 agree to a resolution of the complaint filed with the board,
- 14 allow the respondent the right to review any investigative
- 15 report upon a finding of probable cause for further action
- 16 by the board, require that the conduct providing the basis
- 17 for the complaint occurred within three years of discovery of
- 18 the event by the complainant unless good cause can be shown
- 19 for an extension of this limitation or unless the conduct
- 20 constitutes conduct described in section 256.160, subsection
- 21 1, paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (a),
- 22 require complaints to be resolved within one hundred eighty
- 23 days unless good cause can be shown for an extension of this
- 24 limitation, and require the board to finalize the investigation
- 25 of the written complaint even if the licensed practitioner
- 26 resigns or surrenders the licensed practitioner's license,
- 27 certificate, authorization, or statement of recognition during
- 28 the investigation.
- 29 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 32 This bill modifies provisions related to the time in which
- 33 the board of educational examiners (BOEE) can investigate
- 34 complaints relating to licensed school employees having
- 35 romantic or otherwise inappropriate relationships with

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- 1 students. Current law requires the BOEE to adopt rules
- 2 related to the filing of complaints against individuals who
- 3 hold a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of
- 4 recognition issued by the BOEE. Current law also requires
- 5 that the conduct providing the basis for the complaint to have
- 6 occurred within three years of discovery of the event by the
- 7 complainant unless good cause can be shown for an extension
- 8 of the three-year limitation. The bill provides that the
- 9 three-year limitation shall also not apply if the conduct
- 10 constitutes soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a romantic
- 11 or otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student.