House Study Bill 567 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE ______

BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BILL)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act modifying the board of educational examiners' reporting
- 2 requirements related to the investigation of complaints
- 3 against licensees and nonlicensed school employees.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 256.158, subsection 3, Code 2024, is 2 amended to read as follows:
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- 3. a. All Subject to paragraph "b", all complaint files, 4 investigation files, other investigation reports, and other 5 investigative information in the possession of the board or 6 its employees or agents, which relate to licensee discipline 7 or the investigation of nonlicensed school employees, are 8 privileged and confidential, and are not subject to discovery, 9 subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion for their release 10 to a person other than the respondent and the board and 11 its employees and agents involved in licensee discipline or 12 the investigation of nonlicensed school employees, and are 13 not admissible in evidence in a judicial or administrative 14 proceeding other than the proceeding involving licensee 15 discipline. A complaint, any amendment to a complaint, and 16 any supporting documents shall be provided to the respondent 17 immediately upon the board's determination that jurisdictional 18 requirements have been met and prior to the commencement of the 19 board's investigation of a licensee. Investigative information 20 in the possession of the board or its employees or agents which 21 relates to licensee discipline may be disclosed to appropriate 22 licensing authorities within this state, the appropriate 23 licensing authority in another state, the District of Columbia, 24 or a territory or country in which the licensee is licensed 25 or has applied for a license. A final written decision and
- 26 finding of fact of the board in a disciplinary proceeding is a 27 public record.
- 28 b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", if the investigative
- 29 information in the possession of the board or its employees
- 30 or agents indicates that a crime has been committed by either
- 31 <u>a licensee or a nonlicensed school employee</u>, the board shall
- 32 report the investigative information to the proper law
- 33 <u>enforcement agency.</u>
- 34 EXPLANATION
- 35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

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the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

- 2 This bill modifies the board of educational examiners'
- 3 (BOEE) reporting requirements related to the investigation of
- 4 complaints against licensees and nonlicensed school employees.
- 5 Current law provides that all investigative information
- 6 in the possession of the BOEE, which relates to licensee
- 7 discipline, is privileged and confidential, and is not subject
- 8 to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion
- 9 for their release to a person other than the respondent and
- 10 the BOEE, and are not admissible in evidence in a judicial
- 11 or administrative proceeding other than the proceeding
- 12 involving licensee discipline. The bill provides that these
- 13 same protections apply to the investigation of a nonlicensed
- 14 school employee. Additionally, the bill establishes that,
- 15 notwithstanding these protections, if the investigative
- 16 information in the possession of the BOEE indicates that
- 17 a crime has been committed by either a licensee or a
- 18 nonlicensed school employee, the BOEE is required to report the
- 19 investigative information to the proper law enforcement agency.