

Senate File 205 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 205

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to voter registration activities at schools.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 48A.23, subsection 1, Code 2023, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. At least twice during each school year, the board of
4 directors of each school district operating a high school and
5 the authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school
6 shall offer the opportunity to register to vote to each student
7 who is at least seventeen years of age as provided in this
8 subsection.

9 a. The board of directors of each school district operating
10 a high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited
11 nonpublic school shall allow each student who is at least
12 seventeen years of age to register to vote during school hours
13 on the fourth Tuesday in September of each year, or on the next
14 available school day if school is not in session on that day.

15 b. The board of directors of each school district operating
16 a high school and the authorities in charge of each accredited
17 nonpublic school shall coordinate with the commissioner of
18 registration to organize a second opportunity to allow each
19 student who is at least seventeen years of age to register to
20 vote during school hours, which shall occur later than the
21 date provided in paragraph "a", and shall be conducted by the
22 commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

23 c. The state registrar of voters shall prepare materials
24 regarding voter registration to be distributed at each voter
25 registration activity conducted pursuant to this subsection.

26 d. The board of directors of each school district
27 operating a high school and the authorities in charge of each
28 accredited nonpublic school shall file a report regarding voter
29 registration activities conducted pursuant to this section with
30 the department of education by December 31 of each year.

31 EXPLANATION

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

34 This bill relates to voter registration activities conducted
35 at schools. The bill requires the board of directors of each

1 school district operating a high school and the authorities in
2 charge of each accredited nonpublic school to allow students
3 who are at least 17 years of age to register to vote during
4 school hours on the fourth Tuesday in September of each year,
5 or on the next available school day if school is not in session
6 on that day, and on a second day after that date. The second
7 voter registration opportunity shall be conducted by the county
8 commissioner of registration or the commissioner's designee.
9 The bill requires the state registrar of voters to prepare
10 materials to be distributed at each such voter registration
11 opportunity. The bill also requires the board of directors
12 of each school district operating a high school and the
13 authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school to
14 file a report regarding voter registration activities with the
15 department of education by December 31 of each year.