

Senate File 8 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 8

BY ZAUN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the Iowa core curriculum and to assessment
2 and content standards for school districts and accredited
3 nonpublic schools and including effective date provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,
2 subparagraph (2), subparagraph divisions (b) and (d), Code
3 2023, are amended to read as follows:

4 (b) That the assessment, at a minimum, assess the core
5 academic indicators identified in this paragraph “b”; be
6 aligned with the Iowa ~~common-core~~ academic standards in both
7 content and rigor; accurately describe student achievement and
8 growth for purposes of the school, the school district, and
9 state accountability systems; provide valid, reliable, and
10 fair measures of student progress toward college or career
11 readiness; and meet the summative assessment requirements of
12 the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95.

13 (d) That the assessment be peer-reviewed by an independent,
14 third-party evaluator to determine that the assessment is
15 aligned with the Iowa ~~core~~ academic standards, provides a
16 measurement of student growth and student proficiency, and
17 meets the summative assessment requirements of the federal
18 Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95. The assessment
19 developed by the Iowa testing program within the university of
20 Iowa college of education shall be adjusted as necessary to
21 meet the requirements of this subparagraph (2) as determined
22 by the peer review.

23 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
24 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2023, is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 Adopt rules that establish a ~~core curriculum~~ academic
27 standards and high school graduation requirements for all
28 students in school districts and accredited nonpublic schools
29 that include at a minimum satisfactory completion of four years
30 of English and language arts, three years of mathematics, three
31 years of science, and three years of social studies.

32 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,
33 subparagraph (3), Code 2023, is amended by striking the
34 subparagraph.

35 Sec. 4. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraphs b and c,

1 Code 2023, are amended by striking the paragraphs.

2 Sec. 5. Section 256.7, subsection 28, Code 2023, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 28. Adopt a set of ~~core~~ content standards applicable to all
5 students in kindergarten through grade twelve in every school
6 district and accredited nonpublic school. For purposes of this
7 subsection, ~~"core content"~~ "content standards" includes reading,
8 mathematics, and science. School districts and accredited
9 nonpublic schools shall include, at a minimum, the ~~core~~ content
10 standards adopted pursuant to [this subsection](#) in any set of
11 locally developed content standards. School districts and
12 accredited nonpublic schools are strongly encouraged to set
13 higher expectations in local standards. As changes in federal
14 law or regulation occur, the state board is authorized to amend
15 the ~~core~~ content standards as appropriate.

16 Sec. 6. Section 256.7, subsection 32, paragraph b,
17 subparagraph (1), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2023, is amended
18 to read as follows:

19 Adopt rules which require that educational instruction and
20 course content delivered primarily over the internet be aligned
21 with the Iowa ~~core~~ academic content standards as applicable.
22 Under such rules, a school district may develop and offer to
23 students enrolled in the district educational instruction and
24 course content for delivery primarily over the internet. A
25 school district providing educational instruction and course
26 content that are delivered primarily over the internet shall
27 annually submit to the department, in the manner prescribed by
28 the department, data that includes but is not limited to the
29 following:

30 Sec. 7. Section 256.7, subsection 32, paragraph c, Code
31 2023, is amended to read as follows:

32 c. Rules adopted pursuant to [this subsection](#) shall require
33 that online learning coursework offered by school districts,
34 accredited nonpublic schools, and area education agencies be
35 rigorous, high-quality, aligned with the Iowa ~~core~~ academic

1 standards established pursuant to subsection 26 and ~~core~~
 2 content ~~requirements~~ and standards pursuant to subsection 28
 3 and the national standards of quality for online courses issued
 4 by an internationally recognized association for kindergarten
 5 through grade twelve online learning, and taught by a teacher
 6 licensed under [chapter 272](#) who has specialized training or
 7 experience in online learning, including but not limited to an
 8 online-learning-for-Iowa-educators-professional-development
 9 project offered by area education agencies, a teacher
 10 preservice program, or comparable coursework.

11 Sec. 8. Section 256.9, subsection 49, paragraph a, Code
 12 2023, is amended to read as follows:

13 a. Develop and distribute, in collaboration with the area
 14 education agencies, ~~core-curriculum~~ technical assistance and
 15 implementation strategies that school districts and accredited
 16 nonpublic schools ~~shall~~ may utilize, including but not limited
 17 to the development and delivery of formative and end-of-course
 18 model assessments classroom teachers may use to measure student
 19 progress on the ~~core-curriculum~~ academic standards adopted
 20 pursuant to [section 256.7, subsection 26](#). The department
 21 shall, in collaboration with the advisory group convened in
 22 accordance with paragraph "b" and educational assessment
 23 providers, identify and make available to school districts
 24 end-of-course and additional model end-of-course and additional
 25 assessments to align with the expectations included in the Iowa
 26 ~~core-curriculum~~ academic standards.

27 Sec. 9. Section 256.43, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
 28 2023, is amended to read as follows:

29 c. Courses provided by private providers to a school
 30 district or accredited nonpublic school in accordance with
 31 this section shall meet the Iowa ~~core~~ academic and ~~core~~
 32 content ~~requirements~~ and standards pursuant to section 256.7,
 33 subsections 26 and 28, as well as national standards of quality
 34 for online courses issued by an internationally recognized
 35 association for kindergarten through grade twelve online

1 learning, and be approved in accordance with section 256.9,
2 subsection 55.

3 Sec. 10. Section 257.11, subsection 9, Code 2023, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 9. *Shared classes and curriculum standards.* A school
6 district shall ensure that any course made available to a
7 student through any sharing agreement between the school
8 district and a community college or any other entity providing
9 course programming pursuant to [this section](#) to students
10 enrolled in the school district meets the expectations
11 contained in the ~~core curriculum~~ Iowa academic standards
12 adopted pursuant to [section 256.7, subsection 26](#). The school
13 district shall ensure that any course that has the capacity to
14 generate college credit shall be equivalent to college-level
15 work.

16 Sec. 11. Section 260C.14, subsection 22, paragraph b, Code
17 2023, is amended to read as follows:

18 b. Collaborate with the state board of regents to meet
19 the requirements specified in [section 262.9, subsection 32](#),
20 including but not limited to developing a systematic process
21 for expanding academic discipline and meetings between the
22 community college faculty and faculty of the institutions
23 of higher education governed by the state board of regents,
24 ~~developing criteria to prioritize core curriculum areas,~~
25 promoting greater awareness of articulation-related activities,
26 facilitating additional opportunities for individual
27 institutions to pursue program articulation agreements for
28 career and technical educational programs, and developing
29 and implementing a process to examine a minimum of eight
30 new associate of applied science degree programs for which
31 articulation agreements would serve students' continued
32 academic success in those degree programs.

33 Sec. 12. Section 261E.9, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
34 2023, is amended to read as follows:

35 b. A regional academy may include in its curriculum virtual

1 or internet-based coursework and courses delivered via the Iowa
2 communications network, career and technical courses, ~~core~~
3 ~~curriculum coursework~~, courses required pursuant to section
4 256.7, subsection 26, or [section 256.11, subsections 4 and 5](#),
5 and asynchronous learning networks.

6 Sec. 13. Section 262.9, subsection 32, paragraph c, Code
7 2023, is amended by striking the paragraph.

8 Sec. 14. Section 279.61, subsection 1, paragraph a,
9 subparagraph (1), Code 2023, is amended to read as follows:

10 (1) Prepare the student for successful completion of the
11 ~~core curriculum developed~~ high school graduation requirements
12 adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section
13 256.7, subsection 26, by the time the student graduates from
14 high school.

15 Sec. 15. Section 279.61, subsection 2, Code 2023, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 2. The board of directors of each school district shall
18 report annually to each student enrolled in grades nine through
19 twelve in the school district, and, if the student is under
20 the age of eighteen, to each student's parent or guardian, the
21 student's progress toward meeting the goal of successfully
22 completing the ~~core curriculum and~~ high school graduation
23 requirements adopted by the state board of education pursuant
24 to [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), and toward achieving the goals
25 of the student's career and academic plan.

26 Sec. 16. Section 280.3, subsection 2, Code 2023, is amended
27 to read as follows:

28 2. The minimum educational program shall be the ~~curriculum~~
29 graduation requirements set forth in section 256.7, subsection
30 26, and the educational program set forth in [section 256.11](#),
31 except as otherwise provided by law. The board of directors of
32 a public school district shall not allow discrimination in any
33 educational program on the basis of race, color, creed, sex,
34 marital status, or place of national origin.

35 Sec. 17. Section 284.6, subsection 9, Code 2023, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 9. Moneys received pursuant to section 257.10, subsection
 3 10, or [section 257.37A, subsection 2](#), shall be maintained
 4 as a separate listing within a school district's or area
 5 education agency's budget for funds received and expenditures
 6 made pursuant to [this subsection](#). The department shall not
 7 require a school district or area education agency to allocate
 8 a specific amount or percentage of moneys received pursuant to
 9 section 257.10, subsection 10, or section 257.37A, subsection
 10 2, for professional development related to implementation of
 11 ~~the core curriculum under~~ [section 256.7, subsection 26](#). A
 12 school district shall certify to the department how the school
 13 district allocated the funds and that moneys received under
 14 this subsection were used to supplement, not supplant, the
 15 professional development opportunities the school district
 16 would otherwise make available. For budget years beginning
 17 on or after July 1, 2017, all or a portion of the moneys
 18 received pursuant to [section 257.10, subsection 10](#), that remain
 19 unexpended and unobligated at the end of a fiscal year may,
 20 pursuant to [section 257.10, subsection 10](#), paragraph "d", be
 21 transferred for deposit in the school district's flexibility
 22 account established under [section 298A.2, subsection 2](#).

23 Sec. 18. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
 24 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

25 EXPLANATION

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

28 This bill eliminates requirements and references to the
 29 (Iowa) common core or core curriculum and to core content
 30 standards, but continues to direct the state board of education
 31 to adopt high school graduation requirements and academic and
 32 content standards.

33 Provisions directing school districts to cooperate with
 34 each eighth grade student on a core curriculum plan to meet
 35 core curriculum requirements are amended to replace "core

1 curriculum plan" with "graduation plan" and "core curriculum
2 requirements" with "high school graduation requirements". The
3 academic standards will remain applicable to all students in
4 kindergarten through grade 12 in every school district and
5 accredited nonpublic school. Corresponding changes are made
6 throughout the Code, and obsolete language is eliminated.
7 The bill takes effect upon enactment.