

House File 167 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 167
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 46)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to mandatory reporting to the board of
2 educational examiners of licensed school employees who engage
3 in grooming behavior toward students.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 256.160, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. ~~"Grooming behavior" means any behavior, which in light~~
4 ~~of all relevant circumstances, constitutes actions to entice or~~
5 ~~entrap a student or students with the intent to make such student~~
6 ~~or students engage in a sex act~~ the process of building trust and
7 emotional connections with a student with the intent to exploit
8 such student.

9 EXPLANATION

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

12 This bill relates to mandatory reporting to the board of
13 educational examiners (BOEE) of licensed school employees who
14 engage in grooming behavior toward students. Current law
15 requires the board of directors of a school district or area
16 education agency, the superintendent of a school district,
17 the chief administrator of an area education agency, and the
18 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school, to
19 report to the BOEE any instance of disciplinary action taken
20 against a licensed school employee for conduct constituting
21 soliciting, encouraging, or consummating a sexual or physical
22 relationship with a student, grooming behavior toward a student,
23 or an otherwise inappropriate relationship with a student.
24 For purposes of this provision, current law defines "grooming
25 behavior" to mean any behavior, which in light of all relevant
26 circumstances, constitutes actions to entice or entrap a student
27 or students with the intent to make such student or students
28 engage in a sex act. The bill modifies "grooming behavior" to
29 mean the process of building trust and emotional connections with
30 a student with the intent to exploit such student.