

House File 2127 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2127

BY JONES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to parent, legal guardian, and legal custodian
2 attendance in court-ordered classes due to the actions of the
3 parent's, legal guardian's, or legal custodian's child, and
4 providing penalties.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **232.52B Parental participation in**
2 **classes.**

3 1. If a child is adjudicated to have committed a delinquent
4 act, and the child is ordered by the court to attend a class as
5 a part of the child's dispositional order, then the court shall
6 order the child's parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to
7 attend the class with the child.

8 2. If a child has been adjudicated to have committed a
9 delinquent act three or more times, the court shall require the
10 child's parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to attend a
11 parental responsibility class.

12 3. A parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian who fails to
13 comply with this section commits a public offense.

14 a. A first offense is a simple misdemeanor and a conviction
15 is punishable by confinement for up to ten days or a fine of up
16 to one hundred dollars. The court may order the parent, legal
17 guardian, or legal custodian to perform not more than forty hours
18 of unpaid community service instead of a fine or confinement.

19 b. A second offense is a serious misdemeanor and a conviction
20 is punishable by confinement for up to twenty days, or a fine
21 of up to five hundred dollars, or both a fine and confinement.
22 The court may order the parent, legal guardian, or legal
23 custodian to perform unpaid community service instead of a fine
24 or confinement.

25 c. A third or subsequent offense is a serious misdemeanor and
26 a conviction is punishable by confinement for up to thirty days,
27 a fine of up to one thousand dollars, or both. The court may
28 order the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian to perform
29 unpaid community service instead of a fine or confinement.

30 4. If a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian has made a
31 good-faith effort to comply with this section, the parent, legal
32 guardian, or legal custodian may file an affidavit listing the
33 good-faith effort made by the parent, legal guardian, or legal
34 custodian. Upon court approval of the affidavit, the parent,
35 legal guardian, or legal custodian shall not be criminally liable

1 for noncompliance.

2 5. This section shall not apply to a parent who does not have
3 physical care of the parent's child, and shall not apply to a
4 legal guardian or a legal custodian who is not an individual.

5 6. The department shall adopt rules to implement this
6 section.

7 Sec. 2. Section 256E.7, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
8 by adding the following new paragraph:

9 NEW PARAGRAPH. x. Be subject to and comply with the
10 requirements of section 279.89 relating to reverse punitive
11 measures.

12 Sec. 3. Section 256F.4, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
13 by adding the following new paragraph:

14 NEW PARAGRAPH. v. Be subject to and comply with the
15 requirements of section 279.89 relating to reverse punitive
16 measures.

17 **EXPLANATION**

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

20 This bill relates to parent, legal guardian, and legal
21 custodian attendance in school and court-ordered classes due
22 to the actions of the parent's, legal guardian's, or legal
23 custodian's child.

24 The bill requires a child's parent, legal guardian, or legal
25 custodian (parent) to attend a class with the child if the child
26 was ordered by a juvenile court to attend the class as a part
27 of the child's juvenile delinquency dispositional order. If a
28 child has been adjudicated to have committed a delinquent act
29 three or more times, the juvenile court shall require the child's
30 parent to attend a parental responsibility class. A parent
31 failing to attend a class as ordered by a juvenile court commits
32 a public offense. A first offense is a simple misdemeanor
33 punishable by confinement for up to 10 days or a fine of up
34 to \$100; a second offense is a serious misdemeanor punishable
35 by confinement for up to 20 days, a fine of up to \$500, or

1 both; and a third or subsequent offense is a serious misdemeanor
2 punishable by confinement for up to 30 days, a fine of up to
3 \$1,000, or both. A court may order the parent, legal guardian,
4 or legal custodian to perform unpaid community service instead of
5 a fine or confinement for any offense. A parent that submits
6 an affidavit showing the parent has made a good-faith effort
7 to comply with the bill shall not be criminally liable under
8 the bill upon court approval of the affidavit. Court-ordered
9 attendance does not apply to a parent who does not have physical
10 care of the parent's child, and does not apply to a legal
11 guardian or a legal custodian who is not an individual.

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