

**House File 2512 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2512  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 682)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to education, including by modifying provisions  
2 related to revocation or denial of educator licenses and  
3 certificates for publicly celebrating assassinations or  
4 acts of politically motivated violence, student protests,  
5 and including effective date and retroactive applicability  
6 provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 256.146, Code 2026, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 28. a. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
4 that require the board to disqualify an applicant for a license  
5 or certificate, or to revoke the license or certificate of a  
6 person, for publicly celebrating any act of politically motivated  
7 violence, including the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk, in a  
8 manner that satisfies any of the following criteria:

9 (1) Demonstrates moral turpitude or unfitness to teach or  
10 serve in a position of trust with children.

11 (2) Creates a substantial likelihood of material and  
12 substantial disruption to the learning environment.

13 (3) Undermines public confidence in the integrity of the  
14 education profession.

15 b. A single verified instance of celebrating an act of  
16 politically motivated violence, including the unlawful killing of  
17 Charles J. Kirk, whether on social media, in public statements,  
18 or in any medium accessible to students or the public, shall  
19 constitute sufficient grounds for such disqualification or  
20 revocation.

21 c. The rules must require the board to initiate revocation  
22 proceedings upon receipt of credible evidence that a person  
23 holding a license or certificate publicly celebrated an act of  
24 politically motivated violence, including the unlawful killing of  
25 Charles J. Kirk.

26 d. As used in this subsection:

27 (1) "Celebrate" means to publicly express approval, joy,  
28 satisfaction, or glee regarding an act of politically motivated  
29 violence, including the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk.  
30 "Celebrate" includes but is not limited to stating any of the  
31 following on social media, in public statements, or in any medium  
32 accessible to students or to the public:

33 (a) Good riddance.

34 (b) One less fascist.

35 (c) He deserved it.

1 (d) Any statement that is substantially similar to the  
2 statements in subparagraph divisions (a) through (c) and that  
3 endorses or rejoices in an act of politically motivated violence,  
4 including the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk.

5 (2) "Credible evidence" includes but is not limited to all of  
6 the following:

7 (a) Screenshots.

8 (b) Videos.

9 (c) Sworn complaints.

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 29. a. The board shall adopt rules pursuant  
11 to chapter 17A that prohibit the board from revoking, suspending,  
12 or denying a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of  
13 recognition issued by the board solely on the basis of a person's  
14 or applicant's expression of any of the following:

15 (1) Speech that is protected by the first amendment to the  
16 Constitution of the United States, including political speech.

17 (2) A religious, political, or ideological viewpoint.

18 b. This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit  
19 the board from disqualifying an applicant for a license or  
20 certificate, or from revoking the license or certificate of a  
21 person, pursuant to subsection 28.

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 30. a. The board shall adopt rules pursuant  
23 to chapter 17A that require the board to revoke the license of  
24 a teacher or administrator for encouraging or leading a student  
25 protest.

26 b. For purposes of this subsection, "student protest" means  
27 a coordinated event among three or more students enrolled in a  
28 school district in which the students leave the classroom during  
29 the school day to protest or draw attention to any school policy,  
30 local policy, state policy, federal policy, or any social issue.

31 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **279.89 Student protests.**

32 1. The board of directors of a school district shall consider  
33 a student's participation in a student protest as an unexcused  
34 absence for purposes of chapter 299.

35 2. The board of directors of a school district shall extend

1 the school calendar established pursuant to section 279.10 by one  
2 day for each day that a student protest occurs in any attendance  
3 center in the school district.

4 3. For purposes of this section, "student protest" means a  
5 coordinated event among three or more students enrolled in a  
6 school district in which the students leave the classroom during  
7 the school day to protest or draw attention to any school policy,  
8 local policy, state policy, federal policy, or any social issue.

9 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate  
10 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

11 Sec. 4. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. The following applies  
12 retroactively to September 10, 2025:

13 The portion of the section of this Act enacting section  
14 256.146, subsection 28.

15 EXPLANATION

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

18 This bill relates to education, including by modifying  
19 provisions related to revocation or denial of educator licenses  
20 and certificates for publicly celebrating assassinations or acts  
21 of politically motivated violence and student protests.

22 The bill requires the board of educational examiners (BOEE)  
23 to disqualify an applicant for a license or certificate, and  
24 to revoke the license or certificate of a person, for publicly  
25 celebrating any act of politically motivated violence, including  
26 the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk, in a manner that  
27 demonstrates moral turpitude or unfitness to teach or serve  
28 in a position of trust with children; creates a substantial  
29 likelihood of material and substantial disruption to the learning  
30 environment; or undermines public confidence in the integrity  
31 of the education profession. A single verified instance of  
32 celebrating an act of politically motivated violence, including  
33 the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk, whether on social media,  
34 in public statements, or in any medium accessible to students  
35 or the public, shall constitute sufficient grounds for such

1 disqualification or revocation. The BOEE is required to initiate  
2 revocation proceedings upon receipt of credible evidence that a  
3 person holding a license or certificate publicly celebrated an  
4 act of politically motivated violence, including the unlawful  
5 killing of Charles J. Kirk. This provision applies retroactively  
6 to September 10, 2025.

7 The bill prohibits the BOEE from revoking, suspending, or  
8 denying a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of  
9 recognition issued by the BOEE solely on the basis of a person's  
10 or applicant's expression of speech that is protected by the  
11 first amendment to the Constitution of the United States or  
12 a religious, political, or ideological viewpoint. The bill  
13 provides that this provision shall not be construed to prohibit  
14 the BOEE from disqualifying an applicant for a license or  
15 certificate, or from revoking the license or certificate of a  
16 person, for publicly celebrating an act of politically motivated  
17 violence, including the unlawful killing of Charles J. Kirk.

18 The bill requires the BOEE to revoke the license of a teacher  
19 or administrator for encouraging or leading a student protest.

20 The bill requires school districts to consider a student's  
21 participation in a student protest as an unexcused absence for  
22 purposes of Code chapter 299 (compulsory education). The bill  
23 also requires the board of directors of a school district to  
24 extend the school calendar for each day that a student protest  
25 occurs in any attendance center in the school district.

26 The bill defines "celebrate", "credible evidence", and  
27 "student protest", and the bill is effective upon enactment.