

House File 420 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 420

BY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 50)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a review by the state board of regents of
2 academic programs offered at regents institutions.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Workforce First Act".

3 Sec. 2. INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNED BY THE
4 STATE BOARD OF REGENTS — REVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS.

5 1. No later than the first meeting of the state board of
6 regents occurring on or after November 1, 2025, the board shall
7 complete a review of all undergraduate and graduate academic
8 programs offered at institutions of higher education governed
9 by the board. The purpose of the review shall be to determine
10 whether and to what extent each academic program aligns with
11 current and future workforce needs in this state. The board
12 shall conduct the review in consultation with the department of
13 education and the department of workforce development.

14 2. The board shall submit a report on the results of the
15 review to the governor and the general assembly no later
16 than November 30, 2025. For each academic program reviewed,
17 the report shall recommend that the program remain unchanged,
18 recommend that the program be eliminated, or recommend that the
19 program be changed and describe recommended changes.

20 EXPLANATION

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

23 This bill requires the state board of regents to complete
24 a review of all undergraduate and graduate academic programs
25 offered at institutions of higher education governed by the
26 board. The purpose of the review shall be to determine whether
27 and to what extent each academic program aligns with current
28 and future workforce needs in Iowa. The board shall conduct
29 the review in consultation with the department of education and
30 the department of workforce development. The review shall be
31 completed no later than the first meeting of the board occurring
32 on or after November 1, 2025.

33 The bill requires the board to submit a report on the results
34 of the review to the governor and the general assembly no later
35 than November 30, 2025. For each academic program reviewed,

- 1 the report shall recommend that the program remain unchanged,
- 2 recommend that the program be eliminated, or recommend that the
- 3 program be changed and describe recommended changes.

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