

House File 461 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 461
BY LAWLER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act modifying provisions related to notices that school
2 officials are required to send when a child becomes
3 chronically absent.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 299.12, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. When a child becomes chronically absent, a school official
4 shall send a notice by ordinary mail or electronic mail to
5 the county attorney of the county in which the public school's
6 central administrative office is located, and a notice by
7 ~~certified~~ ordinary mail to the child's parent, guardian, or
8 legal or actual custodian of the child, if the child is not
9 an emancipated minor, or to the child, if the child is an
10 emancipated minor, that includes information related to the
11 child's absences from school and the policies and disciplinary
12 processes associated with additional absences.

13 EXPLANATION

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

16 This bill modifies provisions related to notices that school
17 officials are required to send when a child becomes chronically
18 absent.

19 Current law provides that when a child becomes chronically
20 absent under Code section 299.12 (failure to attend), a school
21 official is required to send a notice by certified mail to the
22 child's parent, guardian, or legal or actual custodian, if the
23 child is not an emancipated minor, or to the child, if the child
24 is an emancipated minor, that includes information related to the
25 child's absences from school and the policies and disciplinary
26 processes associated with additional absences. The bill modifies
27 this provision to provide that the notice is required to be sent
28 by ordinary mail.