

House Study Bill 609 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND
TECHNOLOGY BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON SORENSEN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act modifying the duties of the workforce development board,
2 state board of education, and department of education related
3 to cyber and artificial intelligence.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 84A.1B, Code 2026, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. Establish a comprehensive initiative to
4 address the state's cyber and artificial intelligence workforce
5 needs. The comprehensive initiative must include all of the
6 following:

7 a. In conjunction with the department of education, support
8 for the development and implementation of standards for cyber and
9 artificial intelligence literacy within the kindergarten through
10 grade twelve public school curriculum.

11 b. Facilitation of partnerships between institutions of
12 higher learning governed by the state board of regents and
13 private industry to create internships, research opportunities,
14 and specialized degree programs.

15 c. Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general
16 assembly, establish and operate all of the following:

17 (1) A grant program to support educational institutions and
18 private sector entities in developing and expanding cyber and
19 artificial intelligence training programs.

20 (2) Programs designed to facilitate career transitions into
21 fields related to cyber or artificial intelligence for current
22 professionals, including but not limited to law enforcement
23 officers, teachers, and construction workers.

24 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
25 following new subsection:

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 36. Oversee, in consultation with the state
27 board of regents and the presidents of the community colleges and
28 the chancellors of the community colleges who serve as the chief
29 executive officers of such community colleges, the implementation
30 of educational frameworks from kindergarten through higher
31 education that include all of the following:

32 a. Prioritization of federal funding opportunities to bridge
33 the gap between kindergarten through grade twelve and higher
34 education in cyber and artificial intelligence.

35 b. Establishment of statewide, mandated outcomes or standards

1 for cyber and artificial intelligence literacy for all students,
2 from kindergarten through higher education, that are based on
3 successful outcomes or standards established in other states.

4 c. Development and adoption of consistent statewide standards
5 and frameworks for cyber and artificial intelligence education,
6 from kindergarten through higher education.

7 d. (1) Establishment of a voluntary certification program
8 for school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, charter
9 schools, and innovation zone schools to achieve a designation
10 or certification recognizing that the school district, accredited
11 nonpublic school, charter school, or innovation zone school is in
12 compliance with established standards and best practices related
13 to cyber and artificial intelligence. The state board, in
14 consultation with the chief information officer, shall establish
15 such standards and best practices.

16 (2) The voluntary certification program described in
17 subparagraph (1) must satisfy all of the following requirements:

18 (a) Be based on self-attestation by the school districts,
19 accredited nonpublic schools, charter schools, and innovation
20 zone schools.

21 (b) Involve limited auditing and vetting by the department.

22 Sec. 3. Section 256.9, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
23 following new subsection:

24 NEW SUBSECTION. 80. Develop and implement, in consultation
25 with the department of public safety, a statewide community
26 education initiative for cyber and artificial intelligence
27 awareness that must include all of the following:

28 a. The creation of an accessible digital resource hub
29 for educational materials focused on high-need or at-risk
30 demographics.

31 b. The development of specific marketing campaigns and
32 educational content tailored to key demographic groups, including
33 the elderly, minors, law enforcement officers, and educators.

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EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2 This bill modifies the duties of the workforce development
3 board, state board of education, and department of education
4 related to cyber and artificial intelligence.

5 The bill requires the workforce development board to establish
6 a comprehensive initiative to address the state's cyber and
7 artificial intelligence workforce needs. The comprehensive
8 initiative is required to include: support for the development
9 and implementation of standards for cyber and artificial
10 intelligence literacy within the kindergarten through grade 12
11 public school curriculum; facilitation of partnerships between
12 institutions of higher learning governed by the state board of
13 regents and private industry to create internships, research
14 opportunities, and specialized degree programs; and, subject to
15 an appropriation of funds by the general assembly, establish and
16 operate a grant program to support educational institutions and
17 private sector entities in developing and expanding cyber and
18 artificial intelligence training programs, and programs designed
19 to facilitate career transitions into fields related to cyber or
20 artificial intelligence for current professionals.

21 The bill requires the state board of education to oversee,
22 in consultation with the state board of regents and the
23 presidents of the community colleges and the chancellors of the
24 community colleges who serve as the chief executive officers
25 of such community colleges, the implementation of educational
26 frameworks from kindergarten through higher education that
27 include: prioritization of federal funding opportunities to
28 bridge the gap between kindergarten through grade 12 and higher
29 education in cyber and artificial intelligence; establishment
30 of statewide, mandated outcomes or standards for cyber and
31 artificial intelligence literacy for all students that are based
32 on successful outcomes or standards established in other states;
33 development and adoption of consistent statewide standards and
34 frameworks for cyber and artificial intelligence education, from
35 kindergarten through higher education; and the establishment of a

1 voluntary certification program for school districts, accredited
2 nonpublic schools, charter schools, and innovation zone schools
3 to achieve a designation or certification recognizing that the
4 school district, accredited nonpublic school, charter school,
5 or innovation zone school is in compliance with established
6 standards and best practices related to cyber and artificial
7 intelligence.

8 The bill requires the department of education to develop
9 and implement, in consultation with the department of public
10 safety, a statewide community education initiative for cyber and
11 artificial intelligence awareness, which includes the creation
12 of an accessible digital resource hub for educational materials
13 focused on high-need or at-risk demographics, and the development
14 of specific marketing campaigns and educational content tailored
15 to key demographic groups.

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