

House Study Bill 725 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to education reporting, including the sharing of
2 unit-level wage data for secondary and postsecondary program
3 evaluation, the establishment of the condition of education
4 report, consolidating certain required reports, modifying
5 responsibilities for the future ready Iowa last-dollar
6 scholarship report, modifying Iowa workforce development
7 data-sharing provisions, and creating a return on investment
8 reporting system to be overseen by the Iowa student aid
9 commission.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **84A.22 Unit-level wage data for**
2 **educational program evaluation.**

3 1. For purposes of this section, "unit-level wage data"
4 means individual-level employment records maintained by the
5 department of workforce development, including but not limited
6 to occupational title associated with a standard occupational
7 classification code, hours worked, job-site location, and
8 employer industry classification.

9 2. The department of workforce development shall, pursuant
10 to a request from the department of education, provide
11 unit-level wage data for the purpose of evaluating secondary and
12 postsecondary program outcomes, including return on investment
13 reporting.

14 3. The department of workforce development may enter into
15 data-sharing agreements with the department of education to
16 administer this section.

17 Sec. 2. Section 96.11, subsection 6, paragraph c,
18 subparagraph (6), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

19 (6) Colleges, universities, and public agencies of this state
20 for use in connection with research of a public nature, provided
21 the department does not reveal the identity of an employing unit
22 or individual unless such reporting is required by federal or
23 state law for purposes of accountability or evaluation.

24 Sec. 3. Section 256.7, subsection 32, paragraph b,
25 subparagraph (2), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) The department shall compile and review the data
27 collected pursuant to this paragraph "b" and shall submit ~~its~~
28 ~~findings and recommendations for the continued delivery of~~
29 ~~educational instruction and course content by school districts~~
30 ~~delivered primarily over the internet, in a summary of the data~~
31 in the annual condition of education report to the general
32 assembly by January 15 annually pursuant to section 256.9,
33 subsection 80.

34 Sec. 4. Section 256.9, subsections 19 and 45, Code 2026, are
35 amended to read as follows:

1 19. The department shall compile the financial information
2 related to chapters 423E and 423F from the certified annual
3 reports of each school district received pursuant to section
4 291.10, subsection 2, and shall submit the information to the
5 general assembly in ~~an~~ the annual condition of education report
6 ~~each February 1~~ pursuant to section 256.9, subsection 80.

7 45. Prepare and submit to the chairpersons and ranking
8 members of the senate and house education committees a report
9 on the state's progress toward closing the achievement gap,
10 including student achievement for minority subgroups, and a
11 comprehensive summary of state agency and local district
12 activities and practices taken in the past year to close the
13 achievement gap. Such information shall be submitted in the
14 annual condition of education report pursuant to section 256.9,
15 subsection 80.

16 Sec. 5. Section 256.9, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
17 following new subsection:

18 NEW SUBSECTION. 80. Prepare an annual condition of education
19 report to be submitted to the governor and general assembly by
20 April 1 of each year.

21 Sec. 6. Section 256.177, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
22 following new subsection:

23 NEW SUBSECTION. 12. a. For purposes of this subsection:

24 (1) "*Eligible public institution*" means a community college
25 established under chapter 260C or a public institution of higher
26 education governed by the state board of regents under chapter
27 262.

28 (2) "*Program*" means an instructional offering leading to a
29 certificate, diploma, degree, or other postsecondary credential.

30 (3) "*Return on investment*" means a measure comparing program
31 costs to student outcomes, including employment and earning.

32 b. Oversee a statewide, program-level postsecondary return on
33 investment reporting system for eligible public institutions.

34 c. Each eligible public institution shall submit data to the
35 commission in a form and manner specified by the commission. The

1 data must include data elements necessary to report all of the
2 following:

3 (1) Program tuition and fees.

4 (2) Average time to completion.

5 (3) Retention and completion rates.

6 (4) Post-completion and employment rates.

7 (5) Median earnings of program graduates.

8 (6) Alignment to high-demand occupations, defined as
9 occupations in which state, local, or regional labor market
10 forecasting shows occupational demand exceeds the overall state,
11 local, or regional employer demand metrics, including in
12 openings, numeric change, and growth.

13 d. The commission shall annually compile and publish program
14 level return on investment data submitted pursuant to this
15 subsection by eligible public institutions in a consumer-facing
16 format.

17 e. The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
18 to administer this subsection.

19 f. An eligible public institution that fails to comply with
20 the reporting requirements under this subsection, as determined
21 by the commission, shall be ineligible to participate in
22 state-administered student financial aid programs administered
23 by the commission until the commission determines there is
24 substantial compliance. Prior to declaring an institution
25 ineligible, the commission shall provide written notice to the
26 institution and a reasonable opportunity for the institution
27 to cure the noncompliance. This subsection applies only to
28 state-administered student financial aid and shall not affect
29 eligibility for federal student financial aid.

30 Sec. 7. Section 256.228, subsection 4, paragraph d, Code
31 2026, is amended to read as follows:

32 d. In collaboration with the department of workforce
33 development and the department of education, compile an annual
34 report, in an aggregate form to protect the confidentiality of
35 each eligible program's participants, that includes the number of

1 students receiving scholarships under this section, the number of
2 students receiving grants under section 256.229, the number of
3 scholarship and grant recipients completing a program of study
4 or major annually and in the prescribed time frame under this
5 section or section 256.229, the number of eligible institutions
6 participating in the scholarship and grant programs established
7 under this section or section 256.229, the number of written
8 agreements entered into by the volunteer mentor program under
9 section 15H.10, statistics on employment outcomes for future
10 ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship and future
11 ready Iowa skilled workforce grant program participants by
12 industry, and other data as may be deemed pertinent by the
13 commission, the department of workforce development, or the
14 department of education. The commission shall ~~submit the report~~
15 ~~to the governor and the general assembly annually by January~~
16 15 include this information in the report submitted pursuant to
17 section 256.177, subsection 7.

18 Sec. 8. Section 256E.12, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 2. The state board shall prepare and file with the general
21 assembly by December 1, annually, a comprehensive report with
22 findings and recommendations relating to the charter school
23 program in the state and whether the charter school program under
24 this chapter is meeting the goals and purposes of the program.
25 The report also shall contain, for each charter school, a copy
26 of the charter school's mission statement, attendance statistics
27 and dropout rate, aggregate assessment test scores, projections
28 of financial stability, and the number and qualifications of
29 teachers and administrators. The report shall include the
30 information required to be submitted under section 256F.10 by a
31 charter school or innovation zone school authorized under chapter
32 256F.

33 Sec. 9. Section 256F.10, Code 2026, is amended to read as
34 follows:

35 **256F.10 Reports.**

1 ~~4.~~ A charter school or innovation zone school shall report at
2 least annually to the school board or innovation zone consortium,
3 advisory council, and the state board the information required by
4 the school board or innovation zone consortium, advisory council,
5 or the state board. The reports are public records subject to
6 chapter 22.

7 ~~2.~~ ~~Not later than December 1 annually, the state board shall~~
8 ~~submit a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations~~
9 ~~to the general assembly. The report shall evaluate the state's~~
10 ~~charter school and innovation zone school programs generally,~~
11 ~~including but not limited to an evaluation of whether the charter~~
12 ~~schools and innovation zone schools are fulfilling the purposes~~
13 ~~set forth in section 256F.4, subsection 2. The report also shall~~
14 ~~contain, for each charter school or innovation zone school, a~~
15 ~~copy of the charter school or innovation zone school's mission~~
16 ~~statement, attendance statistics and dropout rate, aggregate~~
17 ~~assessment test scores, projections of financial stability, the~~
18 ~~number and qualifications of teachers and administrators, and~~
19 ~~number of and comments on supervisory visits by the department~~
20 ~~of education.~~

21 Sec. 10. Section 279.51A, subsection 5, Code 2026, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 5. Each school district shall report to the department of
24 education, in a manner prescribed by the department, an annual
25 count of all incidents of violence that result in injury or
26 property damage or assault by a student in a school building,
27 on school grounds, or at a school-sponsored function, and any
28 time a student is referred for the use of or transfer to
29 a therapeutic classroom. The report shall include but not
30 be limited to demographic information on students reported as
31 victims and reported as perpetrators of incidents of violence
32 that result in injury or property damage or assault, including
33 but not limited to disaggregated information on race, gender,
34 national origin, age, grade level, and disability, along with
35 any other data required for the department to implement the

1 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by
2 the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95, with
3 appropriate safeguards to ensure student privacy. The department
4 shall compile and summarize the reports, categorized by behavior,
5 and shall submit the summary to the general assembly ~~by November~~
6 ~~1 annually~~ in the annual condition of education report pursuant
7 to section 256.9, subsection 80. A teacher or administrator who
8 submits a report in accordance with this section and who meets
9 the requirements of section 280.27 or section 613.21 shall be
10 immune from civil or criminal liability relating to such action,
11 as well as for participating in any administrative or judicial
12 proceeding resulting from or relating to the report pursuant to
13 the provisions of sections 280.27 and 613.21. The provisions
14 of section 70A.29 shall apply to a teacher or administrator who
15 submits a report in accordance with this section or who reports
16 an incident of violence or assault to a local law enforcement
17 agency in good faith and without fraudulent intent or the intent
18 to deceive. Personal information regarding a student in a report
19 submitted pursuant to this section shall be kept confidential
20 as required under the federal Family Educational Rights and
21 Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g, and in the same manner as personal
22 information in student records maintained, created, collected,
23 or assembled by or for a school corporation or educational
24 institution in accordance with section 22.7, subsection 1.

25 Sec. 11. Section 279.60, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
26 to read as follows:

27 2. The school district shall also collect information from
28 each parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a kindergarten
29 student enrolled in the district on whether the student attended
30 preschool. Each school district shall report the preschool
31 information collected to the department of education in the
32 manner prescribed by the department not later than January 1
33 of that school year. The early childhood Iowa program in the
34 department of health and human services shall have access to
35 the raw data. The department of education shall review the

1 information submitted pursuant to this section and shall submit
2 ~~its findings and recommendations annually in a summary of the~~
3 ~~information in the annual condition of education report pursuant~~
4 ~~to section 256.9, subsection 80,~~ to the governor, the general
5 assembly, the early childhood Iowa state board, and the early
6 childhood Iowa area boards.

7 Sec. 12. Section 284.11, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
8 2026, is amended to read as follows:

9 c. ~~Review~~ If funding is appropriated for purposes of
10 this section, review the use and effectiveness of the funds
11 distributed to school districts for supplemental assistance in
12 high-need schools under this section. The department shall
13 submit its findings and recommendations in a report to the
14 general assembly by January 15 annually.

15 Sec. 13. Section 284.15, subsection 7, paragraph a, Code
16 2026, is amended to read as follows:

17 a. A school district may apply to the department for approval
18 to implement the career paths, leadership roles, and compensation
19 framework specified in subsection 2, or a comparable system
20 of career paths and compensation for teachers that contains
21 differentiated multiple leadership roles. ~~The director shall~~
22 ~~consider the recommendations of the commission established~~
23 ~~pursuant to subsection 12 when approving or disapproving~~
24 ~~applications submitted pursuant to this section.~~ A school
25 district may modify an approved framework or comparable system
26 if the director or the director's designee approves the
27 modification. A school district may appeal the director's or the
28 director's designee's decision to the state board and the state
29 board's decision is final.

30 EXPLANATION

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

33 This bill relates to education reporting.

34 The bill requires the department of workforce development to
35 provide unit-level wage data to the department of education upon

1 request for the purpose of evaluating secondary and postsecondary
2 program outcomes, including return on investment reporting.
3 The bill defines "unit-level wage data" as individual-level
4 employment records maintained by the department of workforce
5 development, including but not limited to occupational title
6 associated with a standard occupational classification code,
7 hours worked, job-site location, wages, and employer industry
8 classification. The bill permits the department of workforce
9 development and the department of education to enter into
10 data-sharing agreements.

11 The bill establishes the annual condition of education report.
12 The bill requires the annual condition of education report to
13 be submitted to the governor and general assembly by April 1
14 of each year. The bill consolidates several existing reports
15 into the annual condition report, including the online learning
16 report, the compilation of financial information related to the
17 secure an advanced vision for education (SAVE) report and school
18 infrastructure local option (SILO) report, the achievement gap
19 report, the incidents of violence report, and the kindergarten
20 literacy assessment report.

21 The bill incorporates the future ready Iowa last-dollar
22 scholarship report into the college student aid commission's
23 annual reporting by requiring the information be included in the
24 report submitted pursuant to Code section 256.177, subsection 7.

25 The bill adds to the annual charter school report the
26 information that charter schools and innovation zone schools are
27 currently required to report under Code chapter 256F, and strikes
28 the detailed reporting requirements from that chapter.

29 The bill provides that the high-need schools report in Code
30 section 284.11 is contingent upon an appropriation by retaining
31 the requirement that findings and recommendations be submitted
32 only if funding is appropriated for purposes of the Code section.

33 The bill modifies Iowa workforce development's ability to
34 share unit-level data by permitting disclosure of individual and
35 employer information if such reporting is required by federal or

1 state law for purposes of accountability or evaluation.

2 The bill adds a duty to the Iowa student aid commission
3 to oversee a statewide program-level postsecondary return on
4 investment reporting system for eligible public institutions.
5 Such institutions include community colleges and regents
6 institutions, and are required to submit data in a form and
7 manner specified by the commission. The bill requires the
8 data submitted to include tuition and fees, time to completion,
9 retention and completion rates, post-completion employment,
10 median earnings, and alignment to high-demand occupations.

11 The bill requires the commission to compile and annually
12 publish the data in a consumer-facing format. Institutions
13 failing to comply with the data reporting requirement,
14 as determined by the commission, are ineligible for
15 state-administered student financial aid until substantial
16 compliance is achieved.

17 The bill strikes an obsolete reference in Code chapter 284.