

House Study Bill 778 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON MOHR)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to and making appropriations to the education
2 system, including the funding and operation of the department
3 for the blind, department of education, state board of
4 regents, and department of workforce development, and
5 modifying provisions related to the Iowa special education
6 council, the school budget review committee, and the
7 calculation of basic enrollment, and including applicability
8 provisions.

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

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

DIVISION I

FY 2026-2027 APPROPRIATIONS — DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLIND

Section 1. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS — ADMINISTRATION.

There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the department for the blind for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

.....	\$	3,207,190
.....	FTEs	103.74

DIVISION II

FY 2026-2027 APPROPRIATIONS — DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sec. 2. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the department of education for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the following amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

1. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

.....	\$	7,073,808
.....	FTEs	71.87

2. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

.....	\$	721,779
-------	----	---------

1

2 FTEs 10.80

3 3. PUBLIC BROADCASTING DIVISION

4 For salaries, support, maintenance, capital expenditures, and
5 miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following
6 full-time equivalent positions:

7

8 \$ 8,165,236

9

10 FTEs 53.20

11 4. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

12 For reimbursement for career and technical education
13 expenditures made by regional career and technical education
14 planning partnerships in accordance with section 256.136:

15

16 \$ 2,952,459

17 5. SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE

18 For use as state matching moneys for federal programs that
19 shall be disbursed according to federal regulations, including
20 salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes, and
21 for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

22

23 \$ 2,176,797

24

25 FTEs 27.83

26 6. BIRTH TO AGE THREE SERVICES

27 a. For expansion of the federal Individuals with Disabilities
28 Education Improvement Act of 2004, Pub. L. No. 108-446, as
29 amended to January 1, 2018, birth through age three services due
30 to increased numbers of children qualifying for those services:

31

32 \$ 1,721,400

33 b. From the moneys appropriated in this subsection, \$383,769
34 shall be allocated to the child health specialty clinics
35 administered by the state university of Iowa in order to provide

1 additional support for infants and toddlers who are born
2 prematurely, drug-exposed, or medically fragile.

3 7. EARLY HEAD START PROJECTS

4 a. For early head start projects:

5

6 \$ 574,500

7 b. The moneys appropriated in this subsection shall be used
8 for implementation and expansion of early head start pilot
9 projects addressing the comprehensive cognitive, social,
10 emotional, and developmental needs of children from birth to age
11 three, including prenatal support for qualified families. The
12 projects shall promote healthy prenatal outcomes and healthy
13 family functioning, and strengthen the development of infants and
14 toddlers in low-income families. Priority shall be given to
15 those organizations that have previously qualified for and
16 received state funding to administer an early head start project.

17 8. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAM

18 For purposes of the student achievement and teacher quality
19 program established pursuant to chapter 284, and for not more
20 than the following full-time equivalent positions:

21

22 \$ 2,990,467

23

24 FTEs 5.83

25 9. STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT

26 a. For distribution to the Iowa testing program by the
27 department of education on behalf of school districts and
28 accredited nonpublic schools to offset the costs associated with
29 a statewide student assessment administered in accordance with
30 section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph "b":

31 \$ 3,000,000

32 b. From the moneys appropriated in this subsection, not more
33 than \$300,000 shall be distributed to the Iowa testing programs
34 within the state university of Iowa college of education to
35 offset the costs of administering the statewide student

1 assessment at accredited nonpublic schools.

2 10. STATEWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE TO EXPAND WORK-BASED LEARNING

3 For support costs associated with the creation of a statewide
4 clearinghouse to expand work-based learning:

5 \$ 300,000

6 11. POSTSECONDARY SUMMER CLASSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
7 PROGRAM

8 For support costs associated with the creation of a program to
9 provide additional moneys for resident high school pupils
10 enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to attend a community college for
11 college-level classes or attend a class taught by a community
12 college-employed instructor during the summer and outside of the
13 regular school year through a contractual agreement between a
14 community college and a school district:

15 \$ 600,000

16 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys received by the
17 department pursuant to this subsection that remain unencumbered
18 or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert
19 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes
20 specified in this subsection until the close of the succeeding
21 fiscal year.

22 12. JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

23 For school districts to reinforce collaborative efforts and
24 regional initiatives that accelerate work-based learning and
25 credential attainment, and to provide direct career education
26 services to identified middle school or high school students
27 enrolled in school districts through direct instruction by a jobs
28 for America's graduates specialist:

29
30 \$ 9,946,450

31 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys received by the
32 department pursuant to this subsection that remain unencumbered
33 or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert
34 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes
35 specified in this subsection until the close of the succeeding

1 fiscal year.

2 13. ATTENDANCE CENTER PERFORMANCE/GENERAL INTERNET SITE AND
3 DATA SYSTEM SUPPORT

4 For administration of a process for school districts to
5 establish specific performance goals and to evaluate the
6 performance of each attendance center operated by the district in
7 order to arrive at an overall school performance grade and report
8 card for each attendance center, for internet site and data
9 system support, and for not more than the following full-time
10 equivalent positions:

11		
12	\$ 250,000
13		
14	FTEs 1.60

15 14. SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSION FOR EARLY READERS

16 For distribution to school districts for implementation of
17 section 279.68, subsection 2, relating to successful progression
18 for early readers:

19		
20	\$ 7,824,782

21 15. EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR LITERACY

22 a. For purposes of purchasing a statewide license for an
23 early warning assessment and administering the early warning
24 system for literacy established in accordance with section 279.68
25 and rules adopted in accordance with section 256.7, subsection
26 31:

27		
28	\$ 1,915,000

29 b. The department shall administer and distribute to school
30 districts and accredited nonpublic schools the early warning
31 assessment system that allows teachers to screen and monitor
32 student literacy skills from prekindergarten through grade six.
33 The department may charge school districts and accredited
34 nonpublic schools a fee for the system not to exceed the actual
35 costs to purchase a statewide license for the early warning

1 assessment minus the moneys received by the department under this
2 subsection. The fee shall be determined by dividing the actual
3 remaining costs to purchase the statewide license for the school
4 year by the number of pupils assessed under the system in the
5 current fiscal year. School districts may use moneys received
6 pursuant to section 257.10, subsection 11, and moneys received
7 for purposes of implementing section 279.68, subsection 2, to pay
8 the early warning assessment system fee.

9 16. IOWA READING RESEARCH CENTER

10 a. For purposes of the Iowa reading research center in order
11 to implement, in collaboration with the area education agencies,
12 the provisions of section 256.9, subsection 49, paragraph "c":
13

14 \$ 1,500,000

15 b. From moneys appropriated in this subsection, not more than
16 \$250,000 shall be used for collaborations with the state board of
17 education relating to the approval of practitioner preparation
18 programs pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 3, paragraph "c",
19 and with the board of educational examiners for the establishment
20 and continuing oversight of the advanced dyslexia specialist
21 endorsement pursuant to section 256.146, subsection 21. For the
22 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the
23 center shall submit a report to the general assembly detailing
24 the expenditures of moneys used for purposes of this paragraph
25 "b".

26 c. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys received by the
27 department pursuant to this subsection that remain unencumbered
28 or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert
29 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes
30 specified in this subsection until the close of the succeeding
31 fiscal year.

32 17. COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE FUND

33 For deposit in the computer science professional development
34 incentive fund established in section 284.6A:

35

1 \$ 500,000

2 18. CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SCHOOL-BASED TRAINING AND
3 SUPPORT

4 a. For distribution to area education agencies for
5 school-based children's mental health services, including mental
6 health awareness training for educators:

7

8 \$ 1,899,682

9 b. Of the moneys appropriated in this subsection for
10 distribution to area education agencies, \$200,000 shall be used
11 for purposes of implementing a children's grief and loss rural
12 pilot program to serve Iowa children in rural school districts or
13 accredited nonpublic schools. The pilot program shall be
14 administered by, and the moneys allocated pursuant to this
15 paragraph shall be distributed to, an existing statewide
16 not-for-profit health care organization that currently provides
17 grief and loss services to children. For the fiscal year
18 beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the health care
19 organization receiving moneys pursuant to this paragraph shall
20 prepare a report, in collaboration with the department of
21 education, detailing the expenditures of moneys used for the
22 purposes of this program and its outcomes, which shall be
23 submitted to the general assembly by September 30, 2027.

24 19. BEST BUDDIES IOWA

25 a. For school districts to create opportunities for
26 one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, and leadership
27 development for students with intellectual and developmental
28 disabilities:

29

30 \$ 35,000

31 b. The department of education shall establish criteria for
32 the distribution of moneys appropriated under this subsection and
33 shall require an organization receiving moneys under this
34 subsection to annually report student identifying data for
35 students participating in the program to the department in the

1 manner prescribed by the department as a condition of receiving
2 such moneys.

3 20. MIDWESTERN HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT

4 For distribution to the midwestern higher education compact to
5 pay Iowa's member state annual obligation:

6

7 \$ 118,450

8 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated pursuant to
9 this subsection that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the
10 close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain
11 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until the
12 close of the succeeding fiscal year.

13 21. NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PAYMENTS TO
14 COMMUNITY COLLEGES

15 For payments to community colleges for the concurrent
16 enrollment of accredited nonpublic school students under section
17 261E.8, subsection 2, paragraph "b":

18

19 \$ 1,000,000

20 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys received by the
21 department pursuant to this subsection that remain unencumbered
22 or unobligated at the close of the fiscal year shall not revert
23 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes
24 designated until the close of the succeeding fiscal year.

25 22. COMMUNITY COLLEGES

26 For general state financial aid to merged areas, as defined in
27 section 260C.2, in accordance with section 260C.18C:

28

29 \$247,008,533

30 23. IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

31 For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous
32 purposes, and for not more than the following full-time
33 equivalent positions:

34

35 \$ 12,813,313

1

2 FTEs 102.85

3 24. IOWA EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY
4 IMPAIRED PROGRAM

5 For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous
6 purposes, and for not more than the following full-time
7 equivalent positions:

8

9 \$ 5,112,412

10

11 FTEs 68.72

12 25. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)
13 COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE

14 For purposes of the science, technology, engineering, and
15 mathematics (STEM) collaborative initiative established in
16 section 256.111, and for not more than the following full-time
17 equivalent positions:

18

19 \$ 6,310,409

20

21 FTEs 5.00

22 a. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the
23 moneys appropriated in this subsection shall be expended for
24 salaries, staffing, institutional support, activities directly
25 related to recruitment of kindergarten through grade 12
26 mathematics and science teachers, and for ongoing mathematics and
27 science programming for students enrolled in kindergarten through
28 grade 12.

29 b. The department shall work with the community colleges to
30 develop STEM professional development programs for community
31 college instructors and STEM curriculum development.

32 c. From the moneys appropriated in this subsection, not less
33 than \$500,000 shall be used to provide technology education
34 opportunities to high school, career academy, and community
35 college students through a public-private partnership, as well as

1 opportunities for students and faculties at these institutions to
2 secure broad-based information technology certification. The
3 partnership must provide all of the following:

- 4 (1) A research-based curriculum.
- 5 (2) Online access to the curriculum.
- 6 (3) Instructional software for classroom and student use.
- 7 (4) Certification of skills and competencies in a broad base
8 of information technology-related skill areas.
- 9 (5) Professional development for teachers.
- 10 (6) Deployment and program support, including but not limited
11 to integration with current curriculum standards.

12 d. Notwithstanding section 8.33, of the moneys appropriated
13 in this subsection that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the
14 close of the fiscal year, an amount equivalent to not more than 5
15 percent of the amount appropriated in this subsection shall not
16 revert but shall remain available for expenditure for summer
17 programs for students until the close of the succeeding fiscal
18 year.

19 26. THERAPEUTIC CLASSROOM INCENTIVE FUND

20 For deposit in the therapeutic classroom incentive fund
21 established in section 256.25:

22
23 \$ 2,351,382

24 27. ONLINE STATE JOB POSTING SYSTEM

25 For purposes of administering an online state job posting
26 system that allows the department of education, school districts,
27 charter schools, area education agencies, and accredited
28 nonpublic schools to post job openings on an internet site:

29
30 \$ 265,000

31 28. LEAD-K PROGRAM

32 For purposes of developing guidelines for a comprehensive
33 family support mentoring program that meets the language and
34 communication needs of families pursuant to section 256.106:

35

1 \$ 200,000

2 29. DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

3 For general supervision, oversight, compliance, employee
4 salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes within
5 the area education agency regions and the department of education
6 main office, and for not more than the following full-time
7 equivalent positions:

8
9 \$ 10,000,000

10
11 FTEs 60.00

12 30. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

13 For purposes of providing required professional development to
14 public and nonpublic schools:

15
16 \$ 1,676,458

17 31. COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

18 a. Administration

19 For general administration salaries, support, maintenance, and
20 miscellaneous purposes, and for the administration of the future
21 ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program in
22 accordance with section 256.228, including salaries, support,
23 maintenance, and miscellaneous purposes related to the future
24 ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program, and
25 for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

26
27 \$ 591,533

28
29 FTEs 4.95

30 b. National guard service scholarship program

31 For purposes of providing national guard service scholarships
32 under the program established in section 256.210:

33
34 \$ 6,600,000

35 c. All Iowa opportunity scholarship program

1 (1) For deposit in the all Iowa opportunity scholarship fund
2 created in section 256.212:

3

4 \$ 3,229,468

5 (2) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, if the moneys
6 appropriated in this lettered paragraph exceed \$500,000,
7 "eligible institution" as defined in section 256.212 shall,
8 during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, include accredited
9 private institutions as defined in section 256.183.

10 d. Teach Iowa scholar program

11 For deposit in the teach Iowa scholar fund established in
12 section 256.218:

13

14 \$ 1,041,361

15 e. Health care professional incentive program

16 For deposit in the health care professional incentive program
17 fund created in section 256.222:

18

19 \$ 7,985,911

20 f. Rural veterinarian loan repayment program

21 For deposit in the rural veterinary care trust fund created in
22 section 256.226:

23

24 \$ 700,000

25 g. Future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar
26 scholarship program

27 For deposit in the future ready Iowa skilled workforce
28 last-dollar scholarship fund created in section 256.228:

29

30 \$ 23,927,005

31 h. Future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant program

32 For deposit in the future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant
33 fund created in section 256.229:

34

35 \$ 425,000

1 i. Iowa workforce grant and incentive program

2 For deposit in the Iowa workforce grant and incentive program
3 fund created in section 256.230:

4

5 \$ 6,500,000

6 j. Court reporter equipment grant program

7 For deposit in the court reporter equipment grant program fund
8 created in section 256.231:

9

10 \$ 50,000

11 Sec. 3. IOWA SKILLED WORKER AND JOB CREATION FUND

12 APPROPRIATIONS. There is appropriated from the Iowa skilled
13 worker and job creation fund created in section 8.57J to the
14 department of education for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
15 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the following amounts, or so much
16 thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes designated:

17 1. For purposes of providing skilled workforce shortage
18 tuition grants in accordance with section 256.227:

19

20 \$ 5,000,000

21 2. For deposit in the workforce training and economic
22 development funds created pursuant to section 260C.18A:

23

24 \$ 15,100,000

25 From the moneys appropriated in this subsection, not more than
26 \$100,000 shall be used by the department for administration of
27 the workforce training and economic development funds created
28 pursuant to section 260C.18A.

29 3. a. For capital projects at community colleges that meet
30 the definition of the term "vertical infrastructure" in section
31 8.57, subsection 3, paragraph "c":

32

33 \$ 6,000,000

34 b. Moneys appropriated in this subsection shall be disbursed
35 pursuant to section 260G.6, subsection 3. Projects that qualify

1 for moneys appropriated in this subsection must include at least
2 one of the following:

3 (1) Workforce infrastructure program capital projects.

4 (2) Major renovations and major repair needs, including
5 health, life, and fire safety needs, including compliance with
6 the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

7 4. For deposit in the pathways for academic career and
8 employment fund created in section 260H.2:

9
10 \$ 4,800,000

11 5. For deposit in the gap tuition assistance fund established
12 in section 260I.2:

13
14 \$ 2,000,000

15 6. For support costs associated with administering a
16 workforce preparation outcome reporting system for the purpose of
17 collecting and reporting data relating to the educational and
18 employment outcomes of workforce preparation programs receiving
19 moneys pursuant to this section:

20
21 \$ 75,000

22 7. For STEM best:

23
24 \$ 700,000

25 Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated in this
26 section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close of
27 the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available for
28 expenditure for the purposes designated until the close of the
29 succeeding fiscal year.

30 Sec. 4. CHIROPRACTIC LOAN FUNDS. Notwithstanding section
31 256.204, the moneys deposited in the chiropractic loan revolving
32 fund created in section 256.204 for the fiscal year beginning
33 July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, may be used for purposes
34 of the chiropractic loan forgiveness program established in
35 section 256.205.

1 June 30, 2027, the state board of regents and the institutions of
2 higher learning governed by the state board of regents shall not
3 reduce moneys budgeted for the fiscal year for the institutions'
4 police departments.

5 d. For allocation in equal parts by the state board of
6 regents to the state university of Iowa, the Iowa state
7 university of science and technology, and the university of
8 northern Iowa to support the John Pappajohn centers for
9 entrepreneurship:

10

11 \$ 125,000

12 The moneys appropriated in this lettered paragraph shall be
13 used to supplement, not supplant, any other funding received by
14 the John Pappajohn centers for entrepreneurship.

15 2. STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

16 a. General university

17 For salaries, support, maintenance, equipment, financial aid,
18 and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following
19 full-time equivalent positions:

20 \$223,496,355

21

22 FTEs 5,058.32

23 b. Oakdale campus

24 For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous
25 purposes, and for not more than the following full-time
26 equivalent positions:

27

28 \$ 2,103,819

29

30 FTEs 38.25

31 c. State hygienic laboratory

32 For salaries, support, maintenance, and miscellaneous
33 purposes, and for not more than the following full-time
34 equivalent positions:

35

1 \$ 4,822,610

2

3 FTEs 102.51

4 d. Family practice program

5 For allocation by the dean of the college of medicine, with
6 approval of the advisory board, to qualified participants to
7 carry out the provisions of chapter 148D for the family practice
8 residency education program, including salaries and support, and
9 for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

10

11 \$ 2,220,598

12

13 FTEs 2.71

14 e. Child health care services

15 For specialized child health care services, including
16 childhood cancer diagnostic and treatment network programs, rural
17 comprehensive care for hemophilia patients, and the Iowa
18 high-risk infant follow-up program, including salaries and
19 support, and for not more than the following full-time equivalent
20 positions:

21

22 \$ 634,502

23

24 FTEs 4.16

25 f. Statewide cancer registry

26 For the statewide cancer registry, and for not more than the
27 following full-time equivalent positions:

28

29 \$ 143,410

30

31 FTEs 2.10

32 g. Substance abuse consortium

33 For distribution to the Iowa consortium for substance abuse
34 research and evaluation, and for not more than the following
35 full-time equivalent positions:

1
 2 \$ 53,427
 3
 4 FTEs .99

5 h. Center for biocatalysis

6 For the center for biocatalysis, and for not more than the
7 following full-time equivalent positions:

8
 9 \$ 696,342
 10
 11 FTEs 6.28

12 i. Primary health care initiative

13 For the primary health care initiative in the college of
14 medicine, and for not more than the following full-time
15 equivalent positions:

16
 17 \$ 624,374
 18
 19 FTEs 6.22

20 From the moneys appropriated in this lettered paragraph,
21 \$254,889 shall be allocated to the department of family practice
22 at the state university of Iowa college of medicine for family
23 practice faculty and support staff.

24 j. Birth defects registry

25 For the birth defects registry, and for not more than the
26 following full-time equivalent positions:

27
 28 \$ 36,839
 29
 30 FTEs .38

31 k. Larned A. Waterman Iowa nonprofit resource center

32 For the Larned A. Waterman Iowa nonprofit resource center, and
33 for not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

34
 35 \$ 156,389

1

2 FTEs 2.75

3 1. Iowa online advanced placement academy science,

4 technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative

5 For the Iowa online advanced placement academy science,

6 technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative established

7 in section 263.8A:

8

9 \$ 463,616

10 m. Iowa flood center

11 For the Iowa flood center for use by the university's college

12 of engineering pursuant to section 466C.1:

13

14 \$ 1,205,593

15 n. College of nursing

16 For employing additional instructors in the college of nursing

17 to increase the number of students who graduate from the college

18 of nursing:

19

20 \$ 2,800,000

21 o. Pediatric cancer research

22 For purposes of pediatric cancer research, including but not

23 limited to laboratory research and clinical trials at the

24 university of Iowa hospitals and clinics:

25

26 \$ 3,000,000

27 p. Center for intellectual freedom

28 For purposes of supporting the center for intellectual freedom

29 established in section 263C.2:

30

31 \$ 1,000,000

32 3. IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

33 For salaries, support, maintenance, equipment, financial aid,

34 and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following

35 full-time equivalent positions:

1

2 \$229,864,938

3

4 FTEs 4,062.34

5 4. UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

6 a. General university

7 For salaries, support, maintenance, equipment, financial aid,

8 and miscellaneous purposes, and for not more than the following

9 full-time equivalent positions:

10

11 \$101,894,146

12

13 FTEs 1,250.28

14 b. Real estate education program

15 For purposes of the real estate education program, and for not

16 more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

17

18 \$ 123,523

19

20 FTEs .86

21 c. Educators for Iowa

22 For purposes of recruiting additional students to participate

23 in educational opportunities that lead to teacher licensure:

24

25 \$ 1,500,000

26 d. Center for civic education

27 For purposes of establishing and operating a center for civic

28 education that promotes the values of free speech, civic

29 leadership, public service, and citizenship, and that enhances

30 civic education among students enrolled in colleges and

31 universities in this state, students enrolled in prekindergarten

32 through grade twelve in schools in this state, teachers, and the

33 public by developing and implementing effective civic learning

34 strategies, encouraging respectful dialogue, and offering

35 educational resources related to free speech and civic knowledge:

1

2 \$ 1,000,000

3 Sec. 7. ENERGY COST-SAVINGS PROJECTS — FINANCING. For the
4 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the
5 state board of regents may use notes, bonds, or other evidences
6 of indebtedness issued under section 262.48 to finance projects
7 that will result in energy cost savings in an amount that will
8 cause the state board to recover the cost of the projects within
9 an average of six years.

10

DIVISION IV

11

STANDING APPROPRIATIONS

12 Sec. 8. AT-RISK CHILDREN. Notwithstanding the standing
13 appropriation in section 279.51 for the fiscal year beginning
14 July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the amount appropriated
15 from the general fund of the state to the department of education
16 for programs for at-risk children under section 279.51 shall not
17 be more than \$10,524,389. The amount of any reduction in this
18 section shall be prorated among the programs specified in section
19 279.51, subsection 1, paragraphs "a", "b", and "c".

20 Sec. 9. WORK-STUDY APPROPRIATION. Notwithstanding section
21 256.209, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending
22 June 30, 2027, the amount appropriated from the general fund of
23 the state to the college student aid commission of the department
24 of education for the work-study program under section 256.209
25 shall be zero.

26

DIVISION V

27

IOWA TUITION GRANTS

28 Sec. 10. Section 256.183, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended
29 to read as follows:

30 3. "Eligible institution" means an institution of higher
31 learning located in Iowa which is operated privately and not
32 controlled or administered by any state agency or any subdivision
33 of the state, which is not exempt from taxation under section
34 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and which meets all of
35 the criteria in subsection 1, paragraphs "d" through "k", and is

1 a school of barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences licensed
2 under chapter 157 and is accredited by a national accrediting
3 agency recognized by the United States department of education.
4 ~~For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, such a school of~~
5 ~~barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences shall provide a~~
6 ~~matching aggregate amount of institutional financial aid equal~~
7 ~~to at least seventy-five percent of the amount received by the~~
8 ~~institution's students for Iowa tuition grant assistance under~~
9 ~~section 256.191. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018,~~
10 ~~the school of barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences shall~~
11 ~~provide a matching aggregate amount of institutional financial~~
12 ~~aid equal to at least eighty-five percent of the amount received~~
13 ~~in that fiscal year. Commencing with the fiscal year beginning~~
14 ~~July 1, 2019, and each succeeding fiscal year, the school of~~
15 ~~barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences shall provide a~~
16 ~~matching aggregate amount of institutional financial aid shall~~
17 ~~be that is at least equal to the match provided by eligible~~
18 ~~institutions under section 261.9, subsection 3, paragraph "a",~~
19 ~~Code 2023.~~

20 Sec. 11. Section 256.192, subsections 1, 2, 4, and 5, Code
21 2026, are amended to read as follows:

22 1. A vocational-technical tuition grant may be awarded to
23 any resident of Iowa who establishes financial need and who is
24 admitted and in attendance as a full-time or part-time student in
25 a any of the following:

26 a. A vocational-technical or career option program at a
27 community college in the state, ~~and who establishes financial~~
28 ~~need.~~

29 b. An eligible institution.

30 2. All classes, including liberal arts classes, identified
31 by the community college or eligible institution as required for
32 completion of the student's vocational-technical or career option
33 program, or barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences program,
34 shall be considered a part of the student's vocational-technical
35 or career option program or barbering and cosmetology arts

1 and sciences program for the purpose of determining the
2 student's eligibility for a grant. Notwithstanding subsection
3 3, if a student is making satisfactory academic progress but
4 the student cannot complete a vocational-technical or career
5 option program or barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences
6 program in the time frame allowed for a student to receive a
7 vocational-technical tuition grant as provided in subsection 3
8 because additional classes are required to complete the program,
9 the student may continue to receive a vocational-technical
10 tuition grant for not more than one additional enrollment period.

11 4. a. (1) The amount of a vocational-technical tuition
12 grant to a qualified full-time student who is enrolled in a
13 vocational-technical or career option program at a community
14 college shall not exceed the lesser of one thousand two hundred
15 dollars per year or the amount of the student's established
16 financial need.

17 ~~b.~~ (2) The amount of a vocational-technical tuition
18 grant to a qualified part-time student who is enrolled in a
19 vocational-technical or career option program at a community
20 college in a course of study including at least three semester
21 hours but fewer than twelve semester hours or the trimester
22 or quarter equivalent shall be equal to the amount of a
23 vocational-technical tuition grant that would be paid to a
24 full-time student, except that the commission shall prorate the
25 amount in a manner consistent with the federal Pell grant program
26 proration.

27 b. (1) The amount of a vocational-technical tuition grant
28 to a qualified full-time student who is enrolled in an eligible
29 institution for the fall and spring semesters, or the equivalent,
30 shall be the amount of the student's financial need for that
31 period not to exceed six thousand dollars.

32 (2) The amount of a vocational-technical tuition grant to
33 a qualified full-time student who is enrolled in an eligible
34 institution for the summer semester or equivalent shall be
35 one-half the amount of the vocational-technical tuition grant the

1 student receives under subparagraph (1).

2 (3) The amount of a vocational-technical tuition grant to
3 a qualified part-time student who is enrolled in an eligible
4 institution in a course of study including at least three
5 semester hours but fewer than twelve semester hours for the
6 fall, spring, and summer semesters, or the equivalent, shall be
7 equal to the amount of a tuition grant that would be paid to a
8 full-time student times a number which represents the number of
9 hours in which the part-time student is actually enrolled divided
10 by twelve semester hours, or the equivalent.

11 (4) If a qualified student receives financial aid under any
12 other program, the full amount of such financial aid shall be
13 considered part of the student's financial resources available in
14 determining the amount of the student's financial need for that
15 period. In no case may the state's total financial contribution
16 to the student's education, including financial aid under any
17 other state or federal program, exceed the tuition and mandatory
18 fees at the eligible institution the student attends.

19 5. A vocational-technical tuition grant shall be awarded on
20 an annual basis, requiring reapplication by the student for
21 each year. Payments under the grant shall be allocated equally
22 among the semesters or quarters of the year upon certification
23 by the ~~institution~~ community college or eligible institution
24 that the student is in full-time or part-time attendance in a
25 vocational-technical or career option program or a barbering and
26 cosmetology arts and sciences program, as defined under rules of
27 the department. If the student discontinues attendance before
28 the end of any term after receiving payment of the grant, the
29 entire amount of any refund due that student, up to the amount
30 of any payments made under the annual grant, shall be paid by
31 the ~~institution~~ community college or eligible institution to the
32 state.

33 Sec. 12. Section 256.194, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
34 by striking the subsection.

35 Sec. 13. Section 256.194, subsection 3, Code 2026, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 3. For each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025,
3 there is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the
4 commission for deposit in the vocational-technical tuition grants
5 fund established in section 256.192, subsection 8, the sum of ~~one~~
6 ~~million seven hundred fifty thousand one hundred eighty-five~~ one
7 million eight hundred sixty-three thousand ninety-nine dollars.

8 Sec. 14. REPEAL. Section 256.191, Code 2026, is repealed.

9 Sec. 15. TRANSFER OF MONEYS. Any moneys appropriated to the
10 college student aid commission for purposes of the Iowa tuition
11 grants for-profit institutions fund established in section
12 256.191, subsection 8, that remain unencumbered or unobligated as
13 of July 1, 2026, shall be transferred to the vocational-technical
14 tuition grants fund established in section 256.192, subsection 8.

15 DIVISION VI

16 STATE PROGRAM ALLOCATION

17 Sec. 16. Section 284.13, subsection 1, paragraph a,
18 subparagraph (1), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, and
20 ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, to the department, the amount of five
21 hundred eight thousand two hundred fifty dollars for the issuance
22 of national board certification awards in accordance with section
23 256.44. Of the amount allocated under this paragraph, not less
24 than eighty-five thousand dollars shall be used to administer
25 the ambassador to education position in accordance with section
26 256.45.

27 Sec. 17. Section 284.13, subsection 1, paragraphs b, c, e, f,
28 and g, Code 2026, are amended to read as follows:

29 b. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, and
30 ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, up to seven hundred twenty-eight
31 thousand two hundred sixteen dollars to the department for
32 purposes of implementing the professional development program
33 requirements of section 284.6, assistance in developing model
34 evidence for teacher quality committees established pursuant to
35 section 284.4, subsection 1, paragraph "b", and the evaluator

1 training program in section 284.10. A portion of the funds
2 allocated to the department for purposes of this paragraph may
3 be used by the department for administrative purposes and for not
4 more than four full-time equivalent positions.

5 c. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, and
6 ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, an amount up to one million
7 seventy-seven thousand eight hundred ten dollars to the
8 department for the establishment of teacher development academies
9 in accordance with section 284.6, subsection 10. A portion
10 of the funds allocated to the department for purposes of this
11 paragraph may be used for administrative purposes.

12 e. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, and
13 ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, to the department an amount up to
14 fifty thousand dollars for purposes of the fine arts beginning
15 teacher mentoring program established under section 256.34.

16 f. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, and
17 ending June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, to the department an amount up to six
18 hundred twenty-six thousand one hundred ninety-one dollars shall
19 be used by the department for a delivery system, in collaboration
20 with area education agencies, to assist in implementing the
21 career paths and leadership roles considered pursuant to sections
22 284.15, 284.16, and 284.17, including but not limited to planning
23 grants to school districts and area education agencies, technical
24 assistance for the department, technical assistance for districts
25 and area education agencies, training and staff development,
26 and the contracting of external expertise and services. In
27 using moneys allocated for purposes of this paragraph, the
28 department shall give priority to school districts with certified
29 enrollments of fewer than six hundred students. A portion of
30 the moneys allocated annually to the department for purposes of
31 this paragraph may be used by the department for administrative
32 purposes and for not more than five full-time equivalent
33 positions.

34 g. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, and
35 for each subsequent fiscal year, to the department, ten million

1 dollars for purposes of implementing the supplemental assistance
2 for high-need schools provisions of section 284.11. Annually,
3 of the moneys allocated to the department for purposes of this
4 paragraph, up to one hundred thousand dollars may be used by the
5 department for administrative purposes and for not more than one
6 full-time equivalent position.

7 DIVISION VII

8 IOWA SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNCIL — REPEAL

9 Sec. 18. REPEAL. Section 256.35B, Code 2026, is repealed.

10 DIVISION VIII

11 APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR A MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT

12 Sec. 19. Section 257.38, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
13 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

14 Boards of school districts, individually or jointly with
15 boards of other school districts, requesting to use a modified
16 supplemental amount for costs in excess of the amount received
17 under section 257.11, subsection 4, for programs for at-risk
18 students, secondary students who attend alternative programs
19 and alternative schools, and returning dropouts and dropout
20 prevention, shall annually approve, by resolution, comprehensive
21 program plans for the programs and budget costs, including ~~annual~~
22 requests for a modified supplemental amount for funding the
23 programs. The program plans shall include:

24 Sec. 20. Section 257.40, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
25 following new subsection:

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. The school budget review committee and
27 the department of education shall not decrease a school
28 district's modified supplemental amount that was approved in a
29 prior budget year due to the failure of the board of directors
30 of a school district to annually approve the school district's
31 program plan for dropout prevention.

32 Sec. 21. ASSESSMENTS OF NEGATIVE MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL
33 AMOUNT. The school budget review committee and the department
34 of management shall reverse any negative modified supplemental
35 amounts that were assessed against a school district from July 1,

1 2024, through June 30, 2027, due to the failure of the board of
2 directors of the school district to approve the school district's
3 program plan for dropout prevention in accordance with section
4 257.38.

5 DIVISION IX

6 FY 2026-2027 APPROPRIATIONS — DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE

7 DEVELOPMENT

8 Sec. 22. CAREER TRAINING PHYSICAL EXPANSION PROGRAM.

9 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
10 to the department of workforce development for the fiscal year
11 beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the following
12 amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the
13 purposes designated:

14 For deposit in the career training physical expansion program
15 fund created in section 84J.3, if enacted by 2026 Iowa Acts,
16 House File 2466, or successor legislation, or by 2026 Iowa Acts,
17 Senate File 2168, or successor legislation:

18
19 \$ 9,500,000

20 2. Moneys appropriated in this section are contingent on the
21 career training physical expansion program fund created in
22 section 84J.3, if enacted by 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2466, or
23 successor legislation, or by 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2168, or
24 successor legislation, receiving no other moneys for the fiscal
25 year beginning July 1, 2026, in any Act of the general assembly.

26 DIVISION X

27 BASIC ENROLLMENT — CORRECTION

28 Sec. 23. Section 257.6, subsection 2, as amended by 2026 Iowa
29 Acts, chapter 1001, section 12, is amended to read as follows:

30 2. *Basic enrollment.*

31 a. Basic enrollment for a budget year is the average of a
32 district's actual enrollment for the base year, determined on the
33 date specified under subsection 1, and the district's adjusted
34 enrollment for the base year, determined on the date specified
35 under subsection 7. Basic enrollment for the base year is the

1 average of a district's actual enrollment for the year preceding
2 the base year, determined on the date specified under subsection
3 1, and the district's adjusted enrollment for the year preceding
4 the base year, determined on the date specified under subsection
5 7.

6 b. If the department of education discovers any discrepancy
7 or disputes the ~~basic~~ actual enrollment count certified under
8 subsection 2 1, or the adjusted enrollment count certified under
9 subsection 7, the department shall notify the school district
10 and the school district shall have five business days from the
11 date of notification by the department to voluntarily resolve
12 such dispute or discrepancy. Failure by a school district to
13 timely resolve such dispute or discrepancy shall result in the
14 department of education making a final determination of such
15 enrollment counts for the school district.

16 DIVISION XI

17 HIGHER EDUCATION — CIVIC PROFICIENCY

18 Sec. 24. NEW SECTION. **262.100 General education**
19 **requirements and core curricula — courses on American history**
20 **and American government.**

21 1. The state board of regents shall require each institution
22 of higher education governed by the board to establish as
23 a requirement for the completion of any general education
24 requirements or core curricula that an undergraduate student
25 complete an introductory survey course in American history
26 and an introductory survey course in American government. An
27 institution shall assign a value of at least three semester hours
28 of credit to each course. A course required by this section
29 shall be a comprehensive survey of all American history and
30 American government.

31 2. A course required by this section shall fulfill the
32 general education or core curriculum requirement for social
33 sciences or humanities, as designated by the institution, that a
34 student is required to complete as a condition of graduation.

35 3. An institution shall provide equivalent credit toward the

1 courses required by this section to a student transferring to the
2 institution for previous coursework completed by the student that
3 is substantially similar to a required course.

4 4. This section does not apply to a student completing a
5 degree program designated by an institution as a degree program
6 of three years or less in duration.

7 5. a. Annually, the center for cyclone civics at the Iowa
8 state university of science and technology and the center
9 for civic education at the university of northern Iowa shall
10 designate courses at their respective institutions that satisfy
11 the requirements of this section.

12 b. The center for intellectual freedom at the state
13 university of Iowa shall be the sole academic unit at the state
14 university of Iowa responsible for offering courses that satisfy
15 the requirements of this section.

16 Sec. 25. NEW SECTION. **262.105 Lecture and debate series.**

17 By December 31, 2026, the center for intellectual freedom at
18 the state university of Iowa, the center for cyclone civics at
19 the Iowa state university of science and technology, and the
20 center for civic education at the university of northern Iowa
21 shall each establish an ongoing lecture and debate series. The
22 series must promote civil dialogue and debate on the issues most
23 important to the American republic.

24 Sec. 26. Section 263C.3, subsection 5, Code 2026, is amended
25 by striking the subsection.

26 Sec. 27. NEW SECTION. **266.8 Annual report — center for**
27 **cyclone civics.**

28 The director of the center for cyclone civics at the Iowa
29 state university of science and technology shall submit an annual
30 report to the governor, the general assembly, and the state
31 board of regents by December 31. The report must provide a
32 full account of the center's achievements and must identify any
33 opportunities, challenges, and obstacles in the development of
34 the center.

35 Sec. 28. NEW SECTION. **268.6 Annual report — center for**

1 **civic education.**

2 The director of the center for civic education at the
3 university of northern Iowa shall submit an annual report to the
4 governor, the general assembly, and the state board of regents
5 by December 31. The report must provide a full account of
6 the center's achievements and must identify any opportunities,
7 challenges, and obstacles in the development of the center.

8 Sec. 29. REVIEW OF GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND CORE
9 CURRICULA. By the semester beginning fall 2028, the board of
10 regents shall conduct a review of all undergraduate general
11 education requirements and core curricula at institutions of
12 higher education governed by the board.

13 Sec. 30. APPLICABILITY. The section of this division of this
14 Act enacting section 262.100 applies to undergraduate students
15 beginning enrollment at institutions of higher education governed
16 by the board of regents in academic years beginning on or after
17 July 1, 2028.

18 DIVISION XII

19 HIGHER EDUCATION — TUITION

20 Sec. 31. Section 262.9, subsection 19, Code 2026, is amended
21 by adding the following new paragraph:

22 NEW PARAGRAPH. d. Limit any increase in the amount of
23 tuition charged by an institution of higher education under
24 the board's control to a resident undergraduate student to the
25 average of the increases in the higher education price index in
26 the previous three years. This paragraph does not apply to a
27 resident undergraduate student in an academic year if the tuition
28 amount that can be charged to the student in the academic year is
29 limited pursuant to subsection 43.

30 Sec. 32. Section 262.9, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
31 following new subsection:

32 NEW SUBSECTION. 43. a. Direct each institution of higher
33 education governed by the board to establish a policy whereby the
34 tuition amount charged to students classified as residents that
35 is charged to an undergraduate student in the student's first

1 academic year of enrollment, commencing with a first academic
2 year of enrollment beginning in or after 2027, will not increase
3 in the student's subsequent academic years of undergraduate
4 enrollment.

5 b. This subsection only applies to an undergraduate student
6 if, upon enrollment, the student pays a fee to the institution in
7 an amount established by the board not to exceed ten percent of
8 the base resident undergraduate tuition amount for the student's
9 first academic year of enrollment.

10 c. For a student who begins the student's first academic year
11 of undergraduate enrollment with sufficient academic transfer
12 credits that the student can complete a baccalaureate degree
13 program in less than four academic years, this subsection only
14 applies for the number of academic years necessary for the
15 student to complete a degree program with the student's academic
16 transfer credits, rounded up.

17 d. If an undergraduate student transfers to another
18 institution of higher education governed by the board after the
19 student's first academic year of enrollment, and the tuition
20 amount that would have been charged to the student during that
21 first academic year by the institution to which the student
22 transfers is greater than the amount charged to the student
23 by the institution from which the student transferred, the
24 institution to which the student transfers may charge the student
25 the greater tuition amount.

26 e. This subsection does not apply to any academic years
27 beyond three consecutive academic years of undergraduate
28 enrollment after a student's first academic year of enrollment.

29 DIVISION XIII

30 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO
31 ANTIBULLYING PROGRAMMING

32 Sec. 33. Section 279.51A, subsection 5, Code 2026, is amended
33 to read as follows:

34 5. a. Each school district shall report to the department of
35 education, in a manner prescribed by the department, an annual

1 count of all incidents of violence that result in injury or
2 property damage or assault by a student in a school building,
3 on school grounds, or at a school-sponsored function, and any
4 time a student is referred for the use of or transfer to
5 a therapeutic classroom. The report shall include but not
6 be limited to demographic information on students reported as
7 victims and reported as perpetrators of incidents of violence
8 that result in injury or property damage or assault, including
9 but not limited to disaggregated information on race, gender,
10 national origin, age, grade level, and disability, along with
11 any other data required for the department to implement the
12 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by
13 the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. No. 114-95, with
14 appropriate safeguards to ensure student privacy. The department
15 shall compile the reports.

16 b. ~~The department shall compile and summarize the reports,~~
17 ~~categorized by behavior, and shall submit the summary~~ an annual
18 report to the general assembly by on or before November 1
19 annually each year that contains all of the following:

20 (1) A summary of the annual reports compiled pursuant to
21 paragraph "a".

22 (2) A description of the department's antibullying
23 programming and current and projected expenditures for the
24 antibullying programming for the immediately preceding fiscal
25 year.

26 c. A teacher or administrator who submits a report in
27 accordance with this section and who meets the requirements of
28 section 280.27 or section 613.21 shall be immune from civil
29 or criminal liability relating to such action, as well as
30 for participating in any administrative or judicial proceeding
31 resulting from or relating to the report pursuant to the
32 provisions of sections 280.27 and 613.21. The provisions of
33 section 70A.29 shall apply to a teacher or administrator who
34 submits a report in accordance with this section or who reports
35 an incident of violence or assault to a local law enforcement

1 agency in good faith and without fraudulent intent or the intent
2 to deceive. Personal information regarding a student in a report
3 submitted pursuant to this section shall be kept confidential
4 as required under the federal Family Educational Rights and
5 Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. §1232g, and in the same manner as personal
6 information in student records maintained, created, collected,
7 or assembled by or for a school corporation or educational
8 institution in accordance with section 22.7, subsection 1.

9 EXPLANATION

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

12 This bill relates to and makes appropriations to the education
13 system. The bill appropriates moneys for FY 2026-2027 from the
14 general fund of the state and other funds to the department for
15 the blind, department of education, state board of regents and
16 its institutions, and department of workforce development. The
17 bill is organized by divisions.

18 DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLIND. The bill appropriates moneys to
19 the department for the blind for its administration.

20 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. The bill appropriates moneys to the
21 department of education for purposes of the department's general
22 administration and for purposes of supporting the department's
23 various entities, programs, funds, and duties, including but not
24 limited to the public broadcasting division, community colleges,
25 the Iowa school for the deaf and Iowa educational services for
26 the blind and visually impaired program, the division of special
27 education, and the college student aid commission.

28 The bill also appropriates moneys from the Iowa skilled worker
29 and job creation fund to the department of education for various
30 purposes.

31 STATE BOARD OF REGENTS. The bill appropriates moneys to
32 the state board of regents for the board office, universities'
33 general operating budgets, the western Iowa regents resource
34 center, the state university of Iowa, the Iowa state university
35 of science and technology, and the university of northern Iowa.

1 STANDING APPROPRIATIONS. For FY 2026-2027, the bill limits
2 the appropriation associated with programs for at-risk children
3 under Code section 279.51 and eliminates the appropriation
4 associated with the work-study program under Code section
5 256.209.

6 IOWA TUITION GRANTS. Current Code section 256.191
7 establishes a tuition grants program for students attending
8 for-profit institutions, and current Code section 256.192
9 establishes a tuition grants program for students attending a
10 vocational-technical or career option program at a community
11 college. The bill modifies current Code section 256.192 to
12 allow students attending for-profit institutions to apply for
13 a vocational-technical tuition grant. The bill repeals Code
14 section 256.191 and transfers any moneys appropriated for
15 purposes of the Iowa tuition grants for-profit institutions fund
16 that remain unencumbered or unobligated as of July 1, 2026, to
17 the vocational-technical tuition grants fund.

18 The bill increases the standing appropriation for tuition
19 grants for qualified students under the vocational-technical
20 tuition grants program.

21 STATE PROGRAM ALLOCATION. Code section 284.13 establishes
22 how moneys appropriated for purposes of the student achievement
23 and teacher quality program are to be allocated. The bill
24 extends such allocations to FY 2026-2027. The bill provides
25 that beginning in FY 2027-2028, of the moneys appropriated for
26 purposes of the student achievement and teacher quality program,
27 the final priority for the allocation is \$10 million for purposes
28 of implementing the supplemental assistance for high-need schools
29 provisions of Code section 284.11.

30 IOWA SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNCIL — REPEAL. Current Code section
31 256.35B establishes an Iowa special education council to act
32 in an advisory capacity to the department of education in
33 promoting, directing, and supervising education for children
34 requiring special education in the schools under the supervision
35 and control of the department. The bill repeals Code section

1 256.35B.

2 APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR A MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT. The
3 bill modifies provisions related to what the boards of directors
4 of school districts must approve in order to request to use a
5 modified supplemental amount for costs in excess of the amount
6 received under Code section 257.11(4).

7 The bill prohibits the school budget review committee and
8 the department of education from decreasing a school district's
9 modified supplemental amount that was approved in a prior budget
10 year due to the failure of the board of directors of a school
11 district to annually approve the school district's program plan
12 for dropout prevention.

13 The bill requires the school budget review committee and
14 the department of management to reverse any negative modified
15 supplemental amount that was assessed against a school district
16 from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027, due to the failure of
17 the board of directors of the school district to properly approve
18 the school district's program plan for dropout prevention.

19 FY 2026-2027 APPROPRIATIONS — DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE
20 DEVELOPMENT. The bill appropriates \$9.5 million from the general
21 fund of the state to the department of workforce development
22 for FY 2026-2027 for deposit in the career training physical
23 expansion program fund created in Code section 84J.3, if enacted
24 by 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2466, section 16, or successor
25 legislation. Moneys appropriated pursuant to this provision are
26 contingent on the career training physical expansion program fund
27 receiving no other moneys for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
28 2026, in any Act of the general assembly.

29 BASIC ENROLLMENT — CORRECTION. The bill changes a reference
30 from "basic" enrollment to "actual" enrollment to reflect the
31 proper enrollment terminology used to determine basic enrollment
32 under Code section 257.6(2) following enactment of 2026 Iowa
33 Acts, chapter 1001.

34 HIGHER EDUCATION — CIVIC PROFICIENCY. The bill provides that
35 the state board of regents must require each institution of

1 higher education to establish as a requirement for the completion
2 of any general education requirements or core curricula that
3 an undergraduate student complete introductory survey courses
4 in American history and American government. The requirement
5 applies to undergraduate students beginning enrollment at
6 institutions in academic years beginning on or after July 1,
7 2028. An institution shall assign a value of at least three
8 semester hours of credit to each course. A required course shall
9 be a comprehensive survey of all American history and American
10 government.

11 A required course shall fulfill the general education or core
12 curriculum requirement for social sciences or humanities, as
13 designated by the institution, that a student is required to
14 complete as a condition of graduation.

15 The bill requires an institution of higher education
16 to provide equivalent credit toward the required courses
17 to a student transferring to the institution for previous
18 substantially similar coursework.

19 The division does not apply to a student completing a degree
20 program designated by an institution as a degree program of three
21 years or less in duration.

22 The bill requires the center for cyclone civics at Iowa
23 state university and the center for civic education at the
24 university of northern Iowa to annually designate courses at
25 their respective institutions that satisfy these requirements.
26 The bill provides that the center for intellectual freedom at the
27 state university of Iowa shall be the sole academic unit at the
28 state university of Iowa responsible for offering courses that
29 satisfy these requirements.

30 The bill strikes a requirement that the center for
31 intellectual freedom at the university of Iowa offer at least one
32 three-semester credit hour course in American history and civil
33 government.

34 The bill requires the state board of regents to conduct a
35 review of all undergraduate general education requirements and

1 core curricula at institutions by the semester beginning fall
2 2028.

3 The bill requires the center for intellectual freedom at the
4 university of Iowa, the center for cyclone civics at Iowa state
5 university, and the center for civic education at the university
6 of northern Iowa to each establish an ongoing lecture and debate
7 series by December 31, 2026. The series must promote civil
8 dialogue and debate on the issues most important to the American
9 republic.

10 The bill requires the directors of the center for cyclone
11 civics at Iowa state university and the center for civic
12 education at the university of northern Iowa to each submit an
13 annual report to the governor, the general assembly, and the
14 board of regents by December 31. The report must provide a full
15 account of the respective center's achievements and identify any
16 opportunities, challenges, and obstacles in the development of
17 the center.

18 HIGHER EDUCATION — TUITION. The bill requires the state board
19 of regents to direct each regents institution to establish a
20 policy whereby the tuition amount charged to students classified
21 as residents that is charged to an undergraduate student in the
22 student's first academic year of enrollment will not increase
23 in the student's subsequent academic years of undergraduate
24 enrollment. This requirement applies to a student's first
25 academic year of enrollment that begins in or after 2027. The
26 bill provides limitations on this requirement.

27 The bill requires the state board of regents to limit any
28 increase in the amount of tuition charged by an institution
29 of higher education to a resident undergraduate student to the
30 average of the increases in the higher education price index in
31 the previous three years; provided, however, that this provision
32 does not apply to a resident undergraduate student in an academic
33 year if the tuition amount that can be charged to the student is
34 limited pursuant to the bill's provisions.

35 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO

H.F. _____

1 ANTIBULLYING PROGRAMMING. The bill requires the department of
2 education to submit an annual report to the general assembly
3 that contains, in part, information related to the department's
4 antibullying programming.

unofficial