

**Senate File 2232 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2232  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2033)

(COMPANION TO LSB 5245HV BY  
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to general education requirements, core  
2 curricula, other functions of regents institutions, and  
3 including applicability provisions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 DIVISION I  
2 SHORT TITLE

3 Section 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may be  
4 cited as the "Increasing Civic Proficiency in Higher Education  
5 Act".

6 DIVISION II

7 REGENTS INSTITUTIONS — GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND CORE  
8 CURRICULA — COURSES ON AMERICAN HISTORY AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

9 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **262.100 General education requirements**  
10 **and core curricula — courses on American history and American**  
11 **government.**

12 1. The state board of regents shall require each institution  
13 of higher education governed by the board to establish as  
14 a requirement for the completion of any general education  
15 requirements or core curricula that an undergraduate student  
16 complete an introductory survey course in American history  
17 and an introductory survey course in American government. An  
18 institution shall assign a value of at least three semester hours  
19 of credit to each course. A course required by this section  
20 shall be a comprehensive survey of all American history and  
21 American government.

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

26 3. An institution shall provide equivalent credit toward the  
27 courses required by this section to a student transferring to the  
28 institution for previous coursework completed by the student that  
29 is substantially similar to a required course.

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

33 5. Annually, the center for intellectual freedom at the  
34 state university of Iowa, the center for cyclone civics at the  
35 Iowa state university of science and technology, and the center

1 for civic education at the university of northern Iowa shall  
2 designate courses at their respective institutions that satisfy  
3 the requirements of this section.

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

6 Sec. 4. REVIEW OF GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND CORE  
7 CURRICULA. No later than December 31, 2026, the board of  
8 regents shall conduct a review of all undergraduate general  
9 education requirements and core curricula at institutions of  
10 higher education governed by the board.

11 Sec. 5. APPLICABILITY. The section of this Act enacting  
12 section 262.100 applies to undergraduate students beginning  
13 enrollment at institutions of higher education governed by the  
14 board of regents in academic years beginning on or after July 1,  
15 2028.

16 DIVISION III

17 LECTURE AND DEBATE SERIES

18 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. **262.105 Lecture and debate series.**

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

26 DIVISION IV

27 CENTERS — ANNUAL REPORTS

28 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. **266.8 Annual report — center for**  
29 **cyclone civics.**

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

1 the center.

2 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. **268.6 Annual report — center for**  
3 **civic education.**

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

10 EXPLANATION

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

13 This bill relates to general education requirements, core  
14 curricula, and other functions of regents institutions.

15 REGENTS INSTITUTIONS — GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND  
16 CORE CURRICULA — COURSES ON AMERICAN HISTORY AND AMERICAN  
17 GOVERNMENT. This division provides that the state board of  
18 regents (board) must require each institution to establish  
19 as a requirement for the completion of any general education  
20 requirements or core curricula that an undergraduate student  
21 complete introductory survey courses in American history and  
22 American government. The requirement applies to undergraduate  
23 students beginning enrollment at institutions in academic years  
24 beginning on or after July 1, 2028. An institution shall assign  
25 a value of at least three semester hours of credit to each  
26 course. A required course shall be a comprehensive survey of all  
27 American history and American government.

28 A required course shall fulfill the general education or core  
29 curriculum requirement for social sciences or humanities, as  
30 designated by the institution, that a student is required to  
31 complete as a condition of graduation.

32 The division requires an institution to provide equivalent  
33 credit toward the required courses to a student transferring to  
34 the institution for previous substantially similar coursework.

35 The division does not apply to a student completing a degree

1 program designated by an institution as a degree program of three  
2 years or less in duration.

3 The division requires the center for intellectual freedom at  
4 the university of Iowa, the center for cyclone civics at Iowa  
5 state university, and the center for civic education at the  
6 university of northern Iowa to annually designate courses at  
7 their respective institutions that satisfy these requirements.

8 The division strikes a requirement that the center for  
9 intellectual freedom at the university of Iowa offer at least one  
10 three-semester credit hour course in American history and civil  
11 government.

12 The division requires the board to conduct a review of all  
13 undergraduate general education requirements and core curricula  
14 at institutions no later than December 31, 2026.

15 LECTURE AND DEBATE SERIES. This division requires the center  
16 for intellectual freedom at the university of Iowa, the center  
17 for cyclone civics at Iowa state university, and the center  
18 for civic education at the university of northern Iowa to each  
19 establish an ongoing lecture and debate series by December 31,  
20 2026. The series must promote civil dialogue and debate on the  
21 issues most important to the American republic.

22 CENTERS — ANNUAL REPORTS. This division requires the  
23 directors of the center for cyclone civics at Iowa state  
24 university and the center for civic education at the university  
25 of northern Iowa to each submit an annual report to the governor,  
26 the general assembly, and the board of regents by December  
27 31. The report must provide a full account of the respective  
28 center's achievements and identify any opportunities, challenges,  
29 and obstacles in the development of the center.