

Senate File 2405 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2405
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2174)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to trainings and curricula regarding specific
2 defined concepts provided by public institutions of higher
3 education and school districts.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 261H.8, Code 2026, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. The president, vice presidents, deans,
4 department directors, or any other administrator of a public
5 institution of higher education shall ensure that all employees
6 of the public institution of higher education under the
7 supervision of such person, whether directly or indirectly, and
8 all contractors engaged by such person, whether directly or
9 indirectly, to provide staff or student training receive training
10 related to the requirements and prohibitions of this section.

11 Sec. 2. Section 279.74, subsection 2, Code 2026, is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 2. a. Each school district may continue training that
14 fosters a workplace and learning environment that is respectful
15 of all employees and students. However, the superintendent
16 of each school district, each employee of the school district,
17 each contractor hired by the school district, and each volunteer
18 engaged by the school district shall ensure that any all
19 curriculum ~~or mandatory~~ provided by the employee, contractor,
20 or volunteer; all educational materials provided to students
21 by the employee, contractor, or volunteer; and all staff or
22 student training provided by an ~~the~~ employee, ~~of the school~~
23 district ~~or by a contractor hired by the school district,~~ or
24 volunteer does not teach, advocate, encourage, promote, or act
25 upon specific stereotyping and scapegoating toward others on
26 the basis of demographic group membership or identity. This
27 ~~subsection~~ paragraph shall not be construed as preventing an
28 employee, ~~or contractor, or volunteer~~ who teaches any curriculum
29 or who provides ~~mandatory~~ training from responding to questions
30 regarding specific defined concepts raised by participants in the
31 training.

32 b. (1) A school district shall not expend any moneys
33 appropriated by the general assembly or any other moneys derived
34 from bequests, charges, deposits, donations, endowments, fees,
35 grants, gifts, income, receipts, tuition, chapter 257 or 284,

1 or any other source to provide any curriculum, educational
2 materials, or staff or student training, either directly or
3 indirectly, that violates paragraph "a".

4 (2) A school district shall not use any of the school
5 district's resources, facilities, or staff or student time
6 to violate paragraph "a" or encourage any person to violate
7 paragraph "a".

8 Sec. 3. Section 279.74, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
9 following new subsections:

10 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. a. The superintendent of each school
11 district shall ensure that all of the following individuals
12 receive training related to the requirements and prohibitions of
13 this section:

14 (1) Employees of the school district.

15 (2) Contractors hired by the school district to provide
16 curriculum, educational materials, or staff or student training.

17 (3) Volunteers engaged by the school district to provide
18 curriculum, educational materials, or staff or student training.

19 b. The training related to the requirements and prohibitions
20 of this section must be of the same quality, and must be
21 conducted in the same manner, as other training courses and
22 professional development programs provided to employees of the
23 school district through area education agencies.

24 c. The school district shall track each employee's,
25 contractor's, and volunteer's completion of the training related
26 to the requirements and prohibitions of this section in the
27 same manner that the school district tracks employee completion
28 of other required training courses and professional development
29 programs.

30 NEW SUBSECTION. 2B. a. Any of the following individuals may
31 bring a civil action for injunctive relief against a school
32 district to prohibit the school district from continuing to
33 violate this section:

34 (1) The parent or guardian of a student who is enrolled in
35 the school district.

1 (2) An employee of the school district.

2 (3) A resident of the school district.

3 b. This subsection shall not be construed to require an
4 individual bringing a civil action under paragraph "a" to
5 demonstrate that the individual was harmed by the school
6 district's violation of this section.

7 Sec. 4. Section 279.74, subsection 4, paragraph d, Code 2026,
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 d. ~~Create~~ Except as provided in subsection 2B, create any
10 right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law
11 or in equity by any party against the state of Iowa, its
12 departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or
13 agents, or any other person.

14 EXPLANATION

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

17 This bill relates to trainings and curricula regarding
18 specific defined concepts provided by public institutions of
19 higher education and school districts.

20 Current Code section 279.74(2) requires the superintendent of
21 each school district to ensure that any curriculum or mandatory
22 staff or student training provided by an employee or by a
23 contractor does not teach, advocate, encourage, promote, or act
24 upon specific stereotyping and scapegoating toward others on
25 the basis of demographic group membership or identity. Current
26 Code section 279.74(3) requires school district diversity and
27 inclusion efforts to discourage students from discriminating
28 against another by political ideology or any characteristic
29 protected under federal law or applicable state law. Current
30 Code section 279.74(3) also requires school districts to prohibit
31 employees from discriminating against students or other employees
32 by political ideology or any characteristic protected under
33 federal law or applicable state law.

34 The bill modifies Code section 279.74(2) to require the
35 superintendent and each employee, contractor, and volunteer to

1 ensure that all curriculum provided by the employee, contractor,
2 or volunteer; all educational materials provided to students by
3 the employee, contractor, or volunteer; and all staff or student
4 training provided by the employee, contractor, or volunteer
5 does not teach, advocate, encourage, promote, or act upon
6 specific stereotyping and scapegoating toward others on the basis
7 of demographic group membership or identity. The bill also
8 prohibits school districts from expending any moneys to provide
9 any curriculum, educational materials, or staff or student
10 training, either directly or indirectly, that violates these
11 provisions. In addition, the bill prohibits school districts
12 from using any of the school district's resources, facilities, or
13 staff or student time to violate these provisions.

14 The bill authorizes the parent or guardian of a student,
15 school district employees, and residents of a school district
16 to bring a civil action for injunctive relief against a school
17 district to prohibit the school district from continuing to
18 violate Code section 279.74. The bill provides that this
19 provision is prohibited from being construed to require an
20 individual bringing such a civil action to demonstrate that the
21 individual was harmed by the school district's violation.

22 The bill requires the superintendent of each school district
23 to ensure that all school district employees; contractors who
24 provide curriculum, educational materials, or staff or student
25 training; and volunteers who provide curriculum, educational
26 materials, or staff or student training receive training related
27 to the requirements and prohibitions of Code section 279.74.
28 The bill establishes standards and tracking requirements related
29 to such training. The bill also requires the president,
30 vice presidents, deans, department directors, or any other
31 administrator of a public institution of higher education to
32 ensure that all employees of the public institution under the
33 supervision of such person, and all contractors engaged by such
34 person to provide staff or student training, receive training
35 related to the requirements and prohibitions of Code section

1 261H.8 (training by institution prohibited — specific defined
2 concepts).

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