

Senate File 444 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 444
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1076)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to incentives for whole grade sharing and school
- 2 district reorganization or dissolution.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 257.3, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 d. For purposes of this section, a reorganized school
4 district is one which absorbs at least thirty percent of the
5 enrollment of the school district affected by a reorganization or
6 dissolved during a dissolution and in which action to bring about
7 a reorganization or dissolution is initiated by a vote of the
8 board of directors or jointly by the affected boards of directors
9 to take effect on or after July 1, 2007, and on or before July 1,
10 2024 2030. Each district which initiated, by a vote of the board
11 of directors or jointly by the affected boards, action to bring
12 about a reorganization or dissolution to take effect on or after
13 July 1, 2007, and on or before July 1, 2024 2030, shall certify
14 the date and the nature of the action taken to the department of
15 education by January 1 of the year in which the reorganization or
16 dissolution takes effect.

17 Sec. 2. Section 257.11, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code 2025,
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 c. Pupils attending class for all or a substantial portion of
20 a school day pursuant to a whole grade sharing agreement executed
21 under sections 282.10 through 282.12 shall be eligible for
22 supplementary weighting pursuant to this subsection. A school
23 district which executes a whole grade sharing agreement and which
24 adopts a resolution jointly with other affected boards to study
25 the question of undergoing a reorganization or dissolution to
26 take effect on or before July 1, 2024 2030, shall receive a
27 weighting of one-tenth of the percentage of the pupil's school
28 day during which the pupil attends classes in another district,
29 attends classes taught by a teacher who is jointly employed
30 under section 280.15, or attends classes taught by a teacher who
31 is employed by another school district. A district shall be
32 eligible for supplementary weighting pursuant to this paragraph
33 for a maximum of three years. Receipt of supplementary weighting
34 for a second and third year shall be conditioned upon submission
35 of information resulting from the study to the school budget

1 review committee indicating progress toward the objective of
2 reorganization on or before July 1, ~~2024~~ 2030.

3 Sec. 3. Section 257.11A, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2025, are
4 amended to read as follows:

5 1. In determining weighted enrollment under section 257.6,
6 if the board of directors of a school district has approved a
7 contract for sharing pursuant to section 257.11 and the school
8 district has approved an action to bring about a reorganization
9 to take effect on and after July 1, 2007, and on or before
10 July 1, ~~2024~~ 2030, the reorganized school district shall include,
11 for a period of three years following the effective date of
12 the reorganization, additional pupils added by the application
13 of the supplementary weighting plan, equal to the pupils added
14 by the application of the supplementary weighting plan in the
15 year preceding the reorganization. For the purposes of this
16 subsection, the weighted enrollment for the period of three years
17 following the effective date of reorganization shall include the
18 supplementary weighting in the base year used for determining the
19 combined district cost for the first year of the reorganization.
20 However, the weighting shall be reduced by the supplementary
21 weighting added for a pupil whose residency is not within the
22 reorganized district.

23 2. For purposes of this section, a reorganized district is
24 one in which the reorganization was approved in an election
25 pursuant to sections 275.18 and 275.20 and takes effect on or
26 after July 1, 2007, and on or before July 1, ~~2024~~ 2030. Each
27 district which initiates, by a vote of the board of directors
28 or jointly by the affected boards, action to bring about a
29 reorganization or dissolution to take effect on or after July
30 1, 2007, and on or before July 1, ~~2024~~ 2030, shall certify the
31 date and the nature of the action taken to the department of
32 education by January 1 of the year in which the reorganization
33 or dissolution takes effect.

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EXPLANATION

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

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

2 This bill extends certain incentives for whole grade sharing
3 by school districts and for school district reorganization or
4 dissolution from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2030.

5 The bill provides for a reduced uniform levy as an incentive
6 for school districts that reorganize on or before July 1, 2030.

7 School districts that execute a whole grade sharing agreement
8 and adopt a resolution to study the effect of undergoing a
9 reorganization or dissolution to take effect on or before July
10 1, 2030, are allowed to receive a weighting of one-tenth of the
11 percentage of a student's school day during which the student
12 attends classes in another district, is taught by a teacher
13 jointly employed, or attends classes taught by a teacher employed
14 by another district. This supplementary weighting is available
15 for not more than three years. However, a school district
16 that reorganizes before July 1, 2030, is eligible, for up to
17 three years following reorganization, to continue to receive
18 supplementary weighting in an amount that is equal to the funding
19 that the district received in the year preceding the effective
20 date of its reorganization.

21 The bill does not affect the combined maximum total six-year
22 limitation on a school district's eligibility for supplementary
23 weighting.